Stourbridge
CHRONICLE

Thursday, June 30, 2016 | Read by more than 57,000 people | Price when sold 60p

CELEBRATION SUPPLEMENT STARTS PAGE 19

FIRMS FACE £2m BHS DEBT CRISIS

Report by John Corser

FIRMS in the West Midlands are owed more than £2 million after the collapse of BHS and could be making workers redundant as a result.

More than 60 companies are said to be affected. Halesowen denim jeans and jackets manufacturers Fundamental Fashion is owed a massive £403,000 and ICS Distribution in Smethwick, which is owned £93,000, may have to lay off workers.

Alan Nuttall Partnership, in Dudley, is owed £95,500 for display work; Kidderminster Footwear £72,800; and garden furniture business Mir & Co, in Oldbury, £72,000.

A report by administrators Philip Duffy and Ben Wiles of Duff & Phelps shows that in total £48.54 million is owed to the 1,214 trade and expense creditors that have come forward.

They expect a unsecured creditors to get back just 3p in the pound once £55m has been paid to secured creditors, which includes £35m to Sir Phillip Green's Arcadia Group, the former BHS owner.

Administrators

BHS's 163 shops, including branches at Merry Hill, Wolverhampton, Walsall, Birmingham and Telford, will disappear after administrators failed to find a buyer.

Fundamental Fashions managing director Harvey Gatehouse said he was in negotiations with the administrators to take stock that had been made to BHS orders.

"Losing BHS means we are losing 10 per cent of our annual business. We have been supplying BHS since we started in business in 1998," he said.

The company employs about 20 people at the Alcora Building on Mucklow Hill.

ICS, which operated one of the main warehouses for BHS ladieswear at its six-acre site on Halfords Lane, said potential redundancy letters has been given out to employees.

A spokesman said: "The loss of BHS will have an impact. It has shaved £250,000 off our bottom line. It was one of our biggest customers. We may have to lay off people."

MAYOR GETS READY FOR BLACK COUNTRY RUN

Ready for the Black Country Run – Miss Black Country Abigail Cutler with Black Country Mon and Dudley Mayor Mohammed Hanif

THOUSANDS of runners will pound the streets of Halesowen as part of the popular Black Country Run on Sunday.

Participants can take part in 10k or 5k races organised by Halesowen and Rowley Regis Rotary Club.

Mayor of Dudley, Councillor Mohammed Hanif, and his wife Zabeda will take part in the 5k race alongside Black Country Mon, the region's own superhero. Councillor Hanif said: "The Black Country Run is always a popular event and showcases everything that is great about the community."

The run is one of July's events celebrating the Black Country.

The run, which last year raised more than £27,000 for charities, will start and finish in Halesowen town centre.

The 10k run is for those aged over 16 and starts at 9am in Birmingham Road. If places are available, registration takes place up to 8.15am (non-affiliated runners £14).

The 5k race is for all ages and sets off at 11.30am (adults £10, children £4) from Birmingham Road. Runners meet in Somers Square. See www.blackcountryrun.com website for further details.

COUNCIL

Fortnightly bins collection U-turn

PLANS to collect rubbish bins in Dudley once a fortnight look set to be scrapped after the council was forced into a rethink.

Council chiefs unveiled the controversial proposals last week as part of a new cost-cutting scheme. They hoped to save £2.3 million with the move, which would also see residents charged £30 a year for green waste collections.

But the Labour-run authority on Monday confirmed there will be a rethink on the proposals, which will be scrutinised by an all-party working group.

Chiefs said the council will 'leave no stone unturned' at looking at other ways for the authority to save cash.

ROADS

Motorists warned to expect disruption

MOTORISTS in Brierley Hill face disruption when resurfacing work starts tomorrow (Friday).

Lane closures will be in place on the northbound carriageway of the A4036 Thorns Road from Caledonia to Mount Pleasant until July 8.

The weather-dependent work, scheduled from 9.30am to 3.30pm, forms part of Dudley Council's ongoing maintenance.

Discussions have already been held with Old Park and Thorns primary schools to ensure any disruption to access is minimised.

TRAVELLERS

One camp left as caravans move on

TRAVELLERS have now moved on from a Dudley car park.

Dozens of caravans set up camp in Flood Street last week.

At the time of going to Press, one illegal camp remained in the borough at Dudley Wood playing fields.

Councillor Gaye Partridge said that 'high level talks' with police were being held over the traveller invasions.

She said: "Most of the illegal encampments of travellers have now moved on. We served legal papers on them and are due to discuss the matter in court with a view to moving the Dudley Wood group on soon after that."

CONTENTS

MARK ANDREWS	6
LETTERS	7
MEMORY LANE	17
PROPERTY	31
THE FAST TICKET	33
PUZZLES	39
MOTORING	41
SPORT	47 & 48

CONTACT US

EDITORIAL:
Tel: 01384 353201/01384 353205
E-mail: dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

SPORTS:
Tel: 01902 319453
E-mail: chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk

PHOTOGRAPHIC: Tel: 01902 319430
E-mail: picturedesk@expressandstar.co.uk

ADVERTISING: Sue Jones
Tel: 01384 399901
E-mail: sue.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

PROPERTY: Marguerita Finnegan
Tel: 01902 319627
E-mail: marguerita.finnegan@expressandstar.co.uk

MOTORING: Liz Barratt
Tel: 01384 353244
E-mail: liz.barratt@expressandstar.co.uk

CLASSIFIED:
Tel: 01902 317878
E-mail: my-classified@expressandstar.co.uk

DISTRIBUTION: Paul Jones
Tel: 01902 319990

Stourbridge CHRONICLE

51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES
Open Monday to Friday 9am-1pm and 2pm-5pm
www.yourchronicle.com

Drug dealer sentence appeal rejected

A FATHER from Stourbridge who was caught with a kilo of heroin in the back of a car has lost a Court of Appeal challenge to his nine-year prison sentence.

Elton Hoxha, aged 37, of Wychbury Road, was a passenger in a car stopped by police in Lye in January of last year.

Officers found two packages of heroin on the back seat, along with three mobile phones and £460 cash on Hoxha.

At his home, they found a further £14,000 in cash, which he claimed was a present from his father in Albania.

At Wolverhampton Crown Court last July he was convicted of possessing heroin with intent to supply and of money laundering. He claimed his prison sentence was too harsh but judges in London threw out his 'hopeless' case.

Lord Justice Burnett said the trial judge had heard the evidence and so was in the best position to decide how involved Hoxha was.

Significant

The judge decided that his role was 'significant', despite the fact his fingerprints were not found on the packages, he told the Court of Appeal. Hoxha's claim that his role was only a 'lesser' one was rejected and his challenge to the sentence dismissed.

The court heard Hoxha had previously lodged an appeal against conviction but had abandoned it. He applied to reopen that appeal, but Lord Justice Burnett, sitting with Mrs Justice May and Judge Melbourne Inman QC, rejected his case.

Last year, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard how Hoxha was a front seat passenger in the Vauxhall Corsa when it was pulled over by police.

On the back seat was a one kilogram haul of heroin in two packages.

Judge Martin Walsh said Hoxha 'no doubt played a significant part' in the acquisition and intended distribution of the heroin.

Fraudster fleeced pop fans out of thousands

MUSIC fans were fleeced out of thousands of pounds by an online fraudster based in Dudley.

Matthew Thompson, of Upper Gornal, advertised the non-existent tickets for concerts by artists including One Direction, Lady Gaga, Justin Timberlake and Michael Bublé on classified advertisement websites Gumtree and Craigslist for up to £90 each. Wolverhampton Crown Court heard that his victims transferred thousands of pounds to his bank account between October 2013 and May 2014 but were left empty-handed.

It was neither the first nor the last time the 36-year-old carried out the same racket.

In 2013 he received a suspended prison sentence over a scam for tickets to see artists including Rihanna and Take That. Following his arrest, over the more recent offences in May 2014, Thompson admitted continuing with the fraud up to September 2015. The court heard his crimes since October 2013 had made him around £4,000.

He was given a 90-week jail term which included the 20-week sentence suspended in 2013.

Email

The court heard Thompson, of Tudor Vale, Upper Gornal, primarily advertised the tickets on the Gumtree website. His victims would contact him by email after which negotiations were carried out via text message. Money was then transferred to his bank account.

Mr Richard McConaghy, prosecuting, said: "He never purchased the tickets himself in the first place. He produced false documentation from Ticketmaster in order to show to his buyers he had bought the tickets he was purporting to sell."

The court also heard Thompson would lie about why the tickets were for sale.

Mr Gurdeep Garcha, defending, said: "He recognises his offences caused considerable upset. He is now drinking to excess and has become depressed."

Thompson admitted 12 specimen fraud charges from a list of 17. He asked the court to consider 14 similar offences which made a further £2,526 profit. Some customers received a partial refund. Due to lack of assets he was ordered to pay back just £1.

Geology sites get global attention

Dudley Keeper of Geology Graham Worton and Colin Prosser from Natural England with the delegates at Saltwells

INTERNATIONAL delegates paid a special visit to nature reserves in Dudley as part of the Black Country's bid to become a Global Geopark.

Delegates from China and Finland were given a tour of key geological sites. The visit by delegates was be the final step in the UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) scrutiny process for the Geopark bid.

Delegates were given a tour of geological sites in the Black Country, including Wren's Nest National Nature Reserve and Saltwells Nature Reserve in Dudley, Barr Beacon in Walsall, the geopark exhibition at the Bilston Craft Gallery and Galton Valley in Sandwell.

The four Black Country authorities – including Dudley – this year submitted an application to become part of the UNESCO Global Geopark network. A Global Geopark is an area of international significance that protects and promotes the geological and related industrial and cultural heritage for everyone to enjoy now and in the future. Existing sites include Ironbridge Gorge in Shropshire.

The Black Country Geopark would link many heritage sites and features across the area to tell the story of the landscape. The industrial revolution of the Black Country is at the heart of the bid. To find out more go to www.blackcountrygeopark.org.uk or the Black Country Geopark Project on Facebook.

Action saw drivers miss a hole lot of trouble

A QUICK-THINKING Good Samaritan came to the aid of motorists in Stourbridge after flash floods battered in a manhole cover – leaving a gaping hole in a road.

On hearing torrential rain hammering down, 60-year-old Abdul Quadus went outside.

When he spotted that the manhole cover in Brook Road, Oldswinford, had fallen through he sprang into action fearing people could get seriously hurt. Mr Quadus stood in the flood water and began directing traffic around the hole. He then phoned Dudley Council to report the damage.

The drama unfolded at around 5pm on June 16. He said: "I was on the phone for almost two hours, but they didn't send anyone while I was there. I would have thought that something like that would have been a priority."

It was around 9pm before Mr Quadas left the scene, wet through and angry that nobody from the local authority had attended. In desperation he had borrowed orange cones and made his own warning barrier from a box. He said he did not see any official cordons until the next morning.

Councillor Hilary Bills said: "We responded to hundreds of calls across the borough with teams working through the night helping residents whose homes had flooded and putting in place 13 road closures. We cordoned off the manhole on Brook Road as soon as we could and reported it to Severn Trent who went out to repair it."

Walks showcase grounds of hall

VISITORS to Himley Hall can explore the grounds created by Capability Brown during two guided walks.

The first is a tree trail which will take place from 10am until noon on Sunday. Walkers can join the senior park warden to find out more about some of the trees at this historic site.

A walk focusing on some of the architectural features and the wildlife found in the park will take place on August 7, from 10am until noon.

The meeting place for both walks is the notice board on the main car park. They are free to attend but places must be booked in advance by calling (01384) 817817.

Himley Hall is set in 180 acres of parkland designed by Lancelot 'Capability' Brown in the 18th century.

Old police station is now a nursery

A NURSERY converted from an old police station in Hagley has opened. Cotton Tails Hagley, in Kidderminster Road, can look after 80 children up to the age of five. Twenty jobs could be created. It will also be home of owl mascot Dr Whoot, of Birmingham's Big Whoot.

Raids seize £30k haul of illegal tobacco

MORE than £30,000 worth of illegal cigarettes and tobacco has been seized in Dudley following a crackdown.

A total of 39,600 cigarettes and 582 packs of tobacco were taken off the streets by Dudley Council trading standards officers last year.

The illegal goods were seized after spot checks of 16 premises. Trading standards were able to secure six prosecutions following the finds.

The campaign, which also resulted in 515 kg of hand rolling tobacco and 1.7 tons of niche tobacco being seized, was run by trading standards services across the West Midlands area.

Trading standards bosses in Dudley have hailed the borough's contribution as a huge boost to protecting the public.

Councillor Rachel Harris, cabinet member responsible for trading standards, said: "We have a duty to protect the public and work hard to make sure that the goods they buy are genuine products which have had the tax paid on them.

"Selling illegal tobacco is a crime and offenders need to know that they will face consequences if they choose to deal in these products."

The cigarettes and tobacco were discovered by sniffer dogs as part of a sting. The seizures in Dudley were part of a West Midlands-wide operation which saw 1.4 million counterfeit and illicit cigarettes taken off the streets in total.

Last year more than £1 million worth of goods were seized across the region.

Expansion plans could create jobs

A TECHNOLOGY company hopes to expand its premises and create more jobs after outgrowing its existing site.

The changes would see two single storey extensions added to existing buildings at Woodpecker Premises, in Belfont Trading Estate, Halesowen.

The company, in its planning application, said plans would also include building a portal frame and mono-pitch extension.

The report states: "Woodpecker Premises has outgrown its current premises and needs extra storage space. The proposed extra storage space will result in new jobs as the company will be able to facilitate new contracts."

A decision will be made at a council planning meeting.

Foreign money is bringing five posts

A FOREIGN exchange provider has opened a new branch in the Merry Hill shopping centre at Brierley Hill, creating five jobs.

Eurochange has opened on the upper floor of the shopping mall.

School considers multi-academy trust

Olive Hill Primary School, Halesowen

A SCHOOL in Halesowen has proposed becoming part of a multi-academy trust (MAT) in partnership with three borough secondary schools.

Olive Hill Primary School, in Springfield Road, is undergoing a consultation process with parents and stakeholders before making the move.

It would mean that the school would join with The Earls High School, Redhill School and Thorns Community College this autumn and be called the Stour Vale Academy Trust.

A statement on the school's website says: "Any decision on whether or not to become an academy and join the multi-academy trust will be taken by our governing body based on what is considered best for our school, our pupils, our staff and the schools who are part of the proposal to form the MAT.

"As Olive Hill is currently a community school and not yet an academy, a consultation with stakeholders must take place. The governing body is committed to taking the views of all interested stakeholders into account before any final decision.

"Schools have always operated within a changing educational landscape and it is important that Olive Hill responds in a way that ensures we are able to create the best opportunities for our pupils and to serve our wider local community."

An academy is a state-funded school which operates independently within the requirements of national codes. Unlike a state school it receives its funding directly from central government rather than its local authority.

The consultation runs until September 8. A meeting will be held at the school today (Thursday) at 5.30pm.

Hospital bosses launch maternity investigation

AN INVESTIGATION has been launched into maternity care at Russells Hall Hospital.

A mother whose baby died is among those who have been contacted by hospital bosses. It comes after some patients contacted medical negligence lawyers.

The handling of 25 births at the Dudley hospital over the last two years will be reviewed.

Hospital chiefs said they would look into incidents which have been previously investigated.

Several mothers have received letters to say their case is being re-examined, including Louise Oakley, from Dudley. Her son Myles was born on May 7 last year but he died the following day.

The 39-year-old said: "We were obviously devastated at Myles' death last year and wanted to know what had gone wrong.

Determined

"We have already asked lawyers to investigate the care we received because we wanted an independent view but this letter just makes us even more determined to find out exactly what happened."

Mark Cawley, from solicitors Irwin Mitchell, said: "Receiving such a letter is obviously a major concern to patients, it raises the question of how many have been selected and why?

"Those patients involved have a right to know what is going on and to receive answers."

Paula Clark, chief executive at the Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust, said: "The Dudley Group is undertaking a retrospective review of a selection of maternity unit incidents, where patients may have experienced unexpected complications, to ensure our investigations process and the care of patients is to the highest standard.

"This is in response to a request from NHS England seeking assurance about learning from incidents.

"We are looking at cases over a two-year period and carrying out an in-depth review of 25 out of the 9,000 births during that time.

"This review is taking a closer look at the process to investigate incidents, to ensure that we learn lessons and share that learning appropriately for the benefit of patients going forward.

"We recognise this is going to be a difficult time for families and we will be liaising closely with them to ensure they have an opportunity to be involved in the review."

Huge rubbish mound is shrinking

The waste mountain in Brierley Hill is finally being reduced and should be gone by the autumn

A MOUNTAIN of waste has shrunk in size, to the benefit of the Brierley Hill skyline.

Diggers have clawed away at the Moor Street mound over the last few months, which had blighted the views of neighbours for years and resulted in a company boss being jailed.

The Environment Agency is clearing the former Refuse Derived Fuel site. Workers are now more than half way through the clean-up project, which is expected to be completed in the autumn.

The mound has blighted residents' views seven years but Brierley Hill Councillor Rachel Harris announced they had finally 'won the battle' to get the site cleared.

She said: "It's clear the owners have stuck to their agreement and things are progressing. We have finally won the battle and the rubbish is finally going rapidly."

The waste saga resulted in High Court action being taken.

Company director Robert McNaughton was jailed for failing to remove the rubbish, which reached around 19 feet high in 2013.

It is hoped plans to build flats on the site once the rubbish is cleared.

A scheme to build two housing blocks containing 94 flats was unveiled last year.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Work due to start on new car park

WORK on a new short stay pay and display car park in Dudley is starting.

Dudley Council has appointed Coleman & Co to carry out the first stage of work to create the car park in Tower Street.

The contract covers the demolition of The Mahoe Centre which will increase space for the 90 space development.

The council say that as well as creating a major new parking facility, the work will also improve the street scene of Tower Street by opening up views to Dudley Castle.

Lots of interest in market hall

THE future of Brierley Hill's indoor market has been given a boost after it was revealed operators have shown strong interest in the town's historic market hall, which is currently up for sale.

Firms which run markets elsewhere in the country have made contact over the market hall in High Street, which was put on the market in May by the family which has owned it for generations.

It is believed the 1930s building could sell for as much as £1 million. It has around 100 stallholders.

Heart charity 5k run at Baggeridge

AN EVENING charity run is taking place in Baggeridge Country Park, near Dudley, tonight (Thursday).

The 5km trail run will take place in aid of Action Heart, the Dudley-based cardiac rehabilitation charity.

It will take place at 7pm and entry costs £10, or £8 for members of running clubs.

For more information call (01384) 292233 or see the www.actionheartrunning.com website.

Apprentice competitor in talk to inspire pupils

A FORMER competitor in TV's The Apprentice visited a Hagley school to deliver a talk about success.

Iranian-born businesswoman Melody Hossaini, who went to school in Staffordshire, reached week ten in the seventh series before being fired 'with regret' by Lord Sugar.

She is touring schools across the country giving inspirational talks. Her #SUCCESStour started with a visit to Year 11 students at Hagley Catholic High School.

Music starts festival

THE Mayor of Dudley will attend an evening of music during the Black Country Festival's opening weekend.

Councillor Mohammed Hanif will be tapping his feet to music from the musicals at Music of the Night, presented by Gig Caritas at Brierley Hill Civic Hall on Saturday from 7.30pm.

It's time to put your foot down on fungal nail infection!

Research shows that laser treatment is a safe and effective procedure, with some studies reporting a success rate of up to 90% at three months!

By using advanced medical lasers that penetrate into the nail bed we can now treat and cure your fungal nail infection. It is now possible to get amazing results.

Our Summer Nails Offer

One Hand or Foot *was £100* **NOW £65**

Both Hands or Feet *was £150* **NOW £100**

Price per treatment

TO BOOK OR FOR A FREE CONSULTATION

Call us: 01384 824039

58B South Road Norton, Stourbridge DY8 3YB

email us: info@tejandco.uk

visit us at: www.tejandco.uk

Tej & Co

Less Mess
Less Cost
Less Hassle!

Call FOR A BROCHURE!

0800 088 7044

www.iudk.co.uk

Showroom:
8 Wordsley Green
Lawnswood Rd Wordsley
DY8 5PD Nr Sainsburys
01384 293654
(All made to measure)

REPLACEMENT KITCHEN DOORS

BUY 2 GET 1 FREE
EVERY DOOR IN EVERYDAY RANGE*

Doors & More
SINCE 2005

VISA VISA Electron MasterCard Maestro Cirrus

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

UNWRAPPING his latest acquisition, a neighbour noticed the container carried a particularly stern warning. The plastic bag was not a toy. There was a danger of suffocation. It should be kept away from children. It must be disposed of in accordance with the latest regulations. It contained a chainsaw.

I SUGGESTED a few days ago that "camping holiday" is an oxymoron, a self-contradicting phrase. A recent convert to tent pegs and canvas insists: "I see it as a camping trip, not a camping holiday." She adds: "I took to it like a duck to water." Very apt. Have you checked if your toes are webbed yet?

POOR Cliff Richard. He looks a wreck, tormented and exhausted by the inquiry into false sex-abuse allegations and the alleged collusion between police and the BBC. I wonder if we will ever see him performing again. But quite how to protect people in his position is a huge dilemma. Accusations are made against a celebrity - should the authorities then be expected to impose a news blackout? It is unthinkable and, in this digital age, unworkable. It could also damage justice by preventing other alleged victims coming forward, as they did in droves during the Jimmy Savile case. England has a long tradition of open justice. The downside is that from time to time it will expose innocent men and women to baseless anguish.

A READER accuses me of being out of touch with football. Thank you, sir. Kindest thing anyone has said for some time.

In truth "out of touch" does not begin to cover my splendid ignorance and utter disdain for the game. I dislike it at every level, from the foul-mouthed dads screaming obscenities from the touchline at under-12 matches to the swaggering, criminally-overpaid thickos of the Premiership. I hate the way it infantilises men, creating hordes of petulant, ignorant, drunken Brit-babies who burst into tears when their team loses just like they did when they were nine, whose only interest and only topic of conversation is football, who can name every England squad member since the 1950s but can't tell you who the Chancellor is, who are permanently locked into the mind-set that England fans are just having a good time while foreign fans are hooligans. So let me tell you this: At least half the population of the UK doesn't give a damn about football, has no idea what the Euros are, finds the whole tournament vaguely embarrassing and couldn't care less who wins or loses. Oh, for goodness' sake, stop blubbing.

MAJOR Tim Peake, just back from six months in the International Space Station, says he would go back "in a heartbeat." And how does Mrs Peake feel about that?

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Drink-drive death driver not wearing seatbelt

A 24-year-old man died after his car hit a tree and a lamppost whilst he was driving having consumed three-and-a-half times the legal alcohol limit.

Lee Wassell, of Clee View Road, Wombourne, was not wearing a seatbelt when he lost control of his Subaru Impreza car on the A458 Bridgnorth Road at Stourton at around 12.35am on January 16.

An inquest heard he had been driving to Birmingham to pick up a female friend when he over steered on a bend, causing the car to spin off the road. The driver's side hit a lamppost and the rear of the car hit a tree before the motorist was ejected from his vehicle, landing in the road. Passersby called an ambulance but he was pronounced dead at the scene.

Cause of death was given as multiple injuries with coroner Andrew Haigh delivering a verdict of accidental death.

Mr Wassell had been drinking at the Old Bush pub in Swindon. He had approximately 280 milligrams of alcohol in his blood. The legal limit is 80 milligrams.

Pc Simon Marshall, who investigated, said: "Being 3.5 times above the legal limit of alcohol is a significant amount. Alcohol of this level would affect anyone."

Describing Mr Wassell's death as a 'tragic accident', Coroner Haigh said: "Lee wasn't wearing his seat belt. If he had, he may have survived."

"I hope this is a lesson for other young people who don't wear their seatbelts," said Lynn Wassell, Lee's mother. "My son made a mistake and he's paid dearly for it."

Dropped kerb blockers face new clampdown

By Clare Butler

INCONSIDERATE motorists who park across dropped kerbs in town centres, blocking pedestrian crossing points, are being warned they could face a penalty charge notice from tomorrow (Friday) onwards.

That's when Dudley Council will be extending its enforcement to drivers who block dropped kerbs at crossing points, which causes problems for mobility scooters, wheelchair users and parents with pushchairs.

Councillor Hilary Bills, cabinet member for environmental services, said: "We want pedestrians to be able to move around our town centres easily and safely. But all too often crossing points with dropped kerbs – put in to help those on mobility scooters, wheelchair users and parents with pushchairs – are being blocked by inconsiderate motorists.

"In the past we have not taken up our powers to issue a penalty charge notice to these drivers but the problem is becoming far too common."

Patrol

If residents are experiencing persistent problems of vehicles blocking a dropped kerb to their drives, they will now be able to make a written request for enforcement action.

Council bosses explain that it is not an emergency call out service but requests will be considered with problem areas incorporated into patrol routes 'where resources are available'.

Motorists who double park, potentially causing congestion, also face a penalty charge notice under the new extended powers.

Councillor Bills added:"We will continue to take a common sense, fair and consistent approach to our civil parking enforcement.

"If you are a driver who parks responsibly and legally you really will not be affected by this."

The council said that revenue from any on-street fines will be used to support traffic and road safety schemes in the borough.

Hippodrome night led to romance

Brian and Ann Griffiths, of Tipton, are celebrating 60 years of marriage and it all began at Dudley Hippodrome

IT WAS a match made in Dudley as Brian and Ann Griffiths celebrate 60 years together.

Mr and Mrs Griffiths, from Mills Walk, Tipton, met at Dudley Hippodrome as teenagers. They married at St Johns Church in Tipton and went on to have two children, Brian, aged 60, and Annette, aged 50, four grandchildren Andrew, Kieron, Ryan and Liam and five great grandchildren Shelby, Kiera, Kyla, Ethan and Sharna.

Their daughter Annette Goddard, from Coseley, said that they had spent their married lives dedicated to their family and enjoying holidays together.

"They've been wonderful parents to us – the best we could have wished for," said Mrs Goddard. "They loved spending time at their caravan in Stourport over the years and in the early 90s we would holiday abroad to Egypt and Malta. We have had some wonderful times together and created lots of happy memories over the years.

"Both of them have been very family orientated and just love to be around all the grandchildren and now great grandchildren too. Their little Chihuahua dog, Bow, is also a big part of their lives."

After a spell in the Army, Mr Griffiths was as a steel worker at various factories in the Black Country until he retired, and Mrs Griffiths worked for a packing company.

They celebrated their anniversary with a day out at the Black Country Living Museum and a family meal.

Contest to encourage innovations for the blind

INVENTORS can win a £20,000 prize in a competition to come up with innovative ideas to help the day-to-day lives of the blind or visually impaired.

The Visionary + Challenge competition has been launched by the Beacon Centre in Sedgley.

It is looking for pioneering products or services, from gadgets to make everyday tasks that little bit easier to a ground-breaking invention which would transform someone's life.

The Beacon Centre has joined forces with the University of Wolverhampton's Caparo Innovation Centre to run the contest.

The winner will receive a £20,000 prize, a combination of cash investment and in-kind support from the state-of-the-art innovation centre.

Market

The aim is to help bring the winning product or service to the open market faster and more effectively.

Beacon Centre chief executive Arwyn Jones said: "Across the West Midlands there are already around 170,000 people affected by sight loss, by 2050 this will rise to some 350,000.

"Beacon Centre is a leading sight loss charity and we want to inspire new products or services that could transform everyday life for people with visual or other sensory impairments and has the potential to be launched on the open market."

Apply at www.visonarychallenge.co.uk website.

Partnership to give carers help

A NEW partnership has been formed to support the many people caring for friends or family across Dudley borough.

Dudley Carers Alliance aims to provide expert information, advice and guidance on a range of issues.

This may be financial advice and options for practical support, help with getting time to yourself, advice on keeping healthy and well, support to feel less stressed and guidance on planning for the future.

Councillor Qadar Zada, cabinet lead for adult social care, said: "The new Dudley Carers Alliance will provide exert impartial information, support and advice for all carers across the borough."

Visit www.dudleycarersalliance.org.uk or call (01384) 818723.

Canal festival returns to the Parkhead Locks

THE Parkhead Canal Festival, which is held every two years, returns in September. The event at Parkhead Locks in Dudley, from September 23 to 25, is run by Dudley Canal Trust and Worcester, Birmingham and Droitwich Canal Society.

INTRODUCING
BARBRIDGE
A REAL ALE MICRO BAR
4 REAL ALES
3 KEY KEGS
6 CIDERS
@BARBRIDGE-STOURBRIDGE
SATURDAY JULY 2ND
A TRUE BLACK COUNTRY BAR > FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE > A PLACE TO BE
11 Victoria Passage, Stourbridge DY8 1DP
01384 379898
12 noon-1.00am
Pop in for a taster
FINE WINE, PROSECCO, WHISKIES...

Able & Bromley Carpets / Beds
Family Run Est since 1978
SOFAS, VINYLS AND LAMINATES
WE DO WHAT OTHER CARPET FIRMS WON'T.
Help move heavy furniture, up lift plus take away old carpets FREE OF CHARGE
Shave doors. Bed assemble and disposal.
DISABLED? OAP? CAN'T GET OUT?
or anyone who just needs extra help!
Can't come to us, we'll come to YOU
We will bring 100s of carpet samples sofa and bed brochures to your door
Samantha Sofa 3+2 Fabric Sofas only £500
Heavy Domestic Saxony's from £6.99 sq yd was £14.99
Lola Leather Suite 3 + 2 Recliner in Black or Brown £699
Divan Beds Singles from £92 Double from £142
Bleach cleanable carpets from £3.99 sq yd
UP TO 75% OFF
100's of rolls and end of rolls in store at knockdown prices
WE WILL BEAT YOUR BIG SUPERSTORE
Click on-line for many great prices - www.ablecarpets.co.uk
Terms & conditions apply
Free quotes and Planning
Warehouse Unit, D Dormston Trading Est., Burton Road, Gornal DY1 3TD
OPEN: MON-SAT 9.30-5.00
Quarry Bank • Lye • Wollescote • Kinver • Stourbridge • Pedmore • Brierley Hill • Wordsley
OPEN SUNDAYS 10am-3pm
FREEPHONE 0800 0853747
COVERS ALL AREAS
Adrian Bromley 01902 880541
WE ARE HERE

Workmates at council remember their friend

SANDWELL Council staff remembered a much-missed colleague on Sunday, who was killed in the Tunisian terror attack a year ago.

Adrian Evans, who lived in Bilston, began working for Sandwell Council as an apprentice in 1983. He was murdered along with his 78-year-old father Patrick and 19-year-old nephew Joel Richards on June 26 last year.

Adrian Evans

The terror attack left colleagues stunned and one year on his workmates said they are still struggling to come to terms with what happened to a man they described as 'the ultimate professional who would always go the extra mile for anybody'.

Earlier this year, staff at Roway Lane, where Mr Evans had managed the authority's gas services team, joined with his family to mark what would have been his 50th birthday. They unveiled a memorial area and bench next to his office window and announced an apprenticeship award scheme in his name.

Speaking at the unveiling of the bench, customer services supervisor Michelle Dawes, who worked closely with Mr Evans: "I still can't believe it – it's left a big hole in everybody's lives. We wanted his family to know how much he was loved."

Fears raised over lack of warnings

FAMILIES of the Tunisia terror attack victims raised concerns about a lack of warnings for travellers at a pre-inquest hearing.

Relatives of some of the 30 Britons murdered in the resort of Sousse last year fear not enough was done to alert holidaymakers of the terror risk in the country.

Suzy Richards

The attack came just three months after 24 people – including Shropshire solicitor Sally Jane Adey – were killed at the Bardo Museum in Tunis in March. Andrew Ritchie QC, who represents 17 families including Suzy Richards, said the Foreign Office had potentially failed to require holiday companies to warn Britons of the dangers.

He alleged that travel agents, including Thomson's parent company TUI, had told the Foreign Office that they intended to use 'reduced pricing strategies for further tourists to be enticed to Tunisia following the Bardo attack'. Howard Stevens QC, representing TUI, said the company 'will not accept the assertion'.

Chief says feeling of loss still 'raw'

Daniel Mole with Owen at the awards

'THE feeling of loss is as raw today as it was 12 months ago.' The words of a Walsall FC director as he paid tribute to Joel Richards, Adrian Evans and Patrick Evans.

The Saddlers played a hug part in the lives of this particular Wednesbury family – and continue to be a source of comfort for Suzy and Owen Richards. All involved with the club felt the loss when the news about the trio's deaths broke last year.

Walsall commissioned three specially made plaques which have been placed at Banks's Stadium.

Club secretary and director Daniel Mole said: "Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Joel, Patrick and Adrian. Today marks the one year anniversary of the Tunisian terror attacks and the feeling of loss is as raw today as it was 12 months ago.

"Through this tragedy, our bond with the family – Suzy and Owen in particular – has grown and, like Joel, Patrick and Adrian, they are a part of the Walsall FC family. On days such as today, and always, we will remember those that we lost whilst ensuring that we continue to be a source of comfort to those that we left behind."

Earlier this year Owen was honoured by the team he loves – being handed the inaugural Pride of Walsall FC Award at a club ceremony.

Owen and his mother Suzy launched the 'Smile for Joel' charity earlier this month, which will work with Victim Support to help other families who have experienced traumatic bereavement like they did.

Suzy said her son was delighted – and surprised – by the award.

Handing over the award, Mr Mole said: "We decided Owen deserved this award for all he's been through in the past 12 months and the strength and courage he's shown."

When dream holiday became a nightmare

JUNE 26, 2015 was a stunning summer day in north Africa. The sun beat down on the beaches, as some tourists swam in the clear waters of the Mediterranean and others relaxed on sunbeds.

For four members of the same Black Country family it was the first day of a dream lads' holiday abroad. Joel Richards, his brother Owen, their uncle Adrian Evans and grandfather Patrick had travelled together to celebrate the end of Joel's second year at the University of Worcester and Owen completing his GCSEs.

By David Cosgrove

They were a close-knit family group whose love for each other was clear to all who met them.

But their dream trip turned into a nightmare less than 24 hours after the quartet touched down in Sousse.

They were among scores of tourists on the beach when a lone IS gunman opened fire on Western guests – killing 38 people, including 30 Britons.

Owen survived. His older brother, uncle and grandad did not. The sparkling beach scene was instantly turned into something altogether different with the actions of a single fanatic.

Dignity

Bodies lay prone among the sunbeds, while bloodstains spread across the sand. Gunman Seifeddine Rezgui's 38 victims were covered with beach towels to preserve their dignity. And swathes of yellow and black tape set up by the Tunisian authorities soon denoted the site for what it was – a murder scene. More than 1,500 miles away, Joel and Owen's mum Suzy and gran Maureen were at home in Wednesbury.

As the devastating details filtered back it is hard to imagine what they must have gone through – particularly Suzy, who flew out to Tunisia as soon as she could to be with her lone surviving son.

In the days after the attack the sense of shock in the community was palpable. Three respected, upstanding citizens had been unconditionally slaughtered.

Disbelief and sorrow intermingled in the emotions of all those touched by the tragedy, according to Wednesbury North ward Councillor Elaine Costigan, who knew Adrian from his time working at Sandwell Council. She said: "When I first heard what had happened it was unbelievable, I just couldn't take it in. I had spoken to Ade just the day before he flew out.

"To hear the news about him but also then that he had lost his father and his nephew as well was absolutely shocking."

Joel was a 19-year-old football referee, while Mr Evans worked for Sandwell Council. His father, 78-year-old Patrick, lived in Wednesbury, and was Joel's biggest fan – following him around on his refereeing duties.

In the heart-rending days after the massacre, medics told how Owen comforted the injured despite having just witnessed the deaths of three members of his family.

The day after the tragedy he was joined by Suzy and the pair flew back home together. Losing three family members in such horrific fashion has placed a heavy burden on those left behind. But Suzy and Owen in particular have shown remarkable strength in the past year.

Owen, Adrian, Patrick and Joel, seen when Saddlers made it to Wembley last year

Venture keeps Joel's name alive

THE loss of three family members in a single day could have crushed the Richards family. But the strength and willing shown by the pair since that fateful day has been astonishing.

In recent months they have channelled their emotions into a charitable venture that keeps Joel's name alive.

Through Smile for Joel, the family will support other people who have found themselves in a traumatic situation like they did this time last year.

Fundraising schemes have flown in thick and fast since the launch of the charity in April – including the sale of wristbands bearing the charity's name.

The biggest venture on the horizon for the charity is a fun run which takes place in Sandwell Valley Country Park called Run for Joel. Owen urged people to sign up to help remember his lost loved ones.

He said: "This weekend is going to be a tough weekend for me and my family.

"It would be lovely if everyone could sign up for the Run for Joel as a way of remembering my brother, grandad and uncle."

The run starts at 10am at the country park and has been organised by Smile for Joel in partnership with Sandwell Leisure Trust and Victim Support.

There will be a competitive 5k run or a more relaxed 3k fun run, jog or even a stroll. To register visit https://www.slt-leisure.co.uk/runforjoel.

Smile for Joel will work alongside registered charity Victim Support.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Volunteers to tidy church grounds

GREEN-FINGERED volunteers are needed to help tend the grounds of a Black Country landmark.

The St John's Preservation Group is looking for people who can help with work to clear the grounds at St John's Church in Kates Hill, Dudley. It is part of an ongoing project to restore the church and reopen it to the community.

The group is also looking to set up a new nature reserve on former allotment land behind the church. A community orchard, herb gardens and wildlife pools will be created.

Helpers have already begun by clearing overgrown shrubs and rubbish from the site.

Email savestjohnschurch@hotmail.co.uk or call 0787 1195042 for information or if you want to help.

Howzat as mayor starts festivities

THE Mayor of Dudley will be getting this year's Black Country Festival under way by raising cash for his charities at a special cricket match.

The charity match takes place tomorrow (Friday) between Dudley Council officers, councillors and members of the Black Country Festival organising committee. Proceeds from the game at Stourbridge Cricket Club will go to the Mayor's charities.

The game signals the start of a month of celebrations as part of the festival, which includes Black Country Day on July 14.

The teams of six will go head-to-head in a six-over tournament at Amblecote, from 6pm. Admission is free.

Stitch in time for museum costumes

NIMBLE-FINGERED knitters are needed to help the costume department at the Black Country Living Museum.

All are welcome whether they are a novice of the needles or an experienced knitter. It will also be a chance to have a chat and a cuppa while helping with the museum's costumes.

A session will take place tomorrow (Friday) between 1.30pm and 3pm. Meet in the museum reception. To find out more call volunteer co-ordinator Dianne Rivers on 0121 521 5610 or email dianne.rivers@bclm.com

Band tuning up for two summer concerts

MUSICIANS are tuning up for two summer concerts in July.

Langley Band will be performing at the Barlow Theatre in Oldbury. The programme will be varied, ranging from classical to pop music, conducted by musical director Cliff Parker.

The concert taking place on July 22 will start at 8pm with the following night's performance beginning at 7.30pm. Tickets for the concerts are £8, or £5 for under-16s. Tickets are available from the band secretary on (01384) 918547.

ADVERTISEMENT

Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Brian a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!

STEAMED UP DOUBLE GLAZING?

Don't replace the Frames... just the Panes!

Broken or Damaged Windows?
Faulty Hinges, Handles or Locks?
Want The Latest Energy Saving Glass?

All Glazing Backed By Our
5 Year Manufacturers Guarantee

cloudy 2 CLEAR WINDOWS
REPLACING YOUR FAILED DOUBLE GLAZING

Priority Freephone
0800 61 21 118
www.cloudy2clear.com

...we make saving money perfectly clear...

IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews

Kicking off with silly squabbles after vote

IT WAS a dreadful night for both the nation and the wider European project. The result was a travesty and we are under no obligation to accept the result.

England fans demand a replay.

■ ■ ■

AS FOR that other stuff, please can everybody just calm down.

For all the bile that has been spouted on social media over the past few days, you would have thought there had been some sort of declaration of martial law, rather than a democratic vote to leave a customs union.

We always knew the poll was going to be close, and one side or the other would be disappointed.

But the amount of personal venom which has been expressed in the aftermath of the Brexit vote is ridiculous.

We've had people saying they are ashamed to be British, questioning whether the other lot are intelligent enough to vote, and saddest of all, people declaring that they can no longer be friends with those who voted the other way.

It really is time for us all to grow up.

Now when it comes to taking the rise out of politicians, I'm as up for it as the next man.

But at the same time, we should also be extremely grateful for the fact that we live in a democracy where people are free to hold their own views and vote how they like.

Suppose, for example, Zimbabwe held a referendum on whether or not to remain a member of the African Union.

Do you think Mugabe would allow a result he didn't like? And meekly resign when it didn't go his way? Exactly.

At least nobody who defied the Government last week ended up with a visit from the secret police.

But democracy is like football, and there is no game without the other team.

People may not agree with their political opponents, but they should at least have the maturity to respect and cherish them, and be grateful that they are there.

No opposition means no democracy.

■ ■ ■

BLACK Lace singer Dene Michael is now Agado-ing a six-month stretch behind bars after being caught fiddling disability benefits.

It seems the man responsible for one of the most hateful pop songs of all time had told the Department for Work and Pensions he was housebound, when he was really out on tour pushing pineapples up the tree.

How dim are these people?

Look, if you're going to fiddle your benefits, at least choose a low-profile job.

Still it confirms what a lot of us suspected for many years.

That man really does have a criminal record.

On song – Katie Ashley at Armed Forces Day at Himley Hall

Pause for reflection at the war memorial in Cannock

Paying tribute at the Armed Forces Day at Himley Hall

Armed Forces Day hits a new height

Pulling out all the stops around the region to honour our brave British servicemen, as RICHARD GUTTRIDGE reports

PROCESSIONS, flypasts and an orchestral performance – the Black Country and Staffordshire pulled out all the stops to honour British servicemen on Armed Forces Day.

Commemorative events took place across the region over the weekend in recognition of the bravery and sacrifice of serving troops, veterans and cadets.

Crowds who flocked to Himley Hall and Park saw a Spitfire take to the skies, while a Hurricane flew overhead at the RAF Museum at Cosford. The flypasts were part of a weekend filled with performances and entertainment.

Hundreds of people came out for a parade through Wolverhampton city centre, which featured members of regular, reserve, veteran and cadet forces. The parade was led by a brass band and members of the forces were applauded as they passed people lining the streets.

Impressed

The procession started in Wulfruna Street and continued down Lichfield Street towards St Peter's Church where a short service was held, with Mayor of Wolverhampton Barry Findlay leading the tributes.

The event ended with a drumhead service on the church steps – the traditional form for a religious service attended by troops in the field. The parade took place in blazing sunshine and the sudden downpour which followed during the service failed to dampen the spirits.

David Tranter, aged 72, from Willenhall, a former member of the Royal Military Police, was among veterans who turned out for the service.

He said: "It is important to say thank you. People need to be aware of the tasks we carry out that are asked of us as a result of decisions made by politicians.

"It was very good, and there was as good a turnout as the last one I came to. You find in Wolverhampton, there is always a good turnout for these things."

Councillor Findlay said he was impressed by this year's turnout and stressed the importance of such events.

He said: "It's really important. Every night we go to sleep our armed forces are out there protecting us and keeping us all safe and it's a good opportunity to thank them for their hard work.

"There was a good turnout. The weather wasn't particularly great, there was a big shower but not one person turned away."

Similar events were held in Sandwell and Cannock on Saturday.

A parade in Oldbury ran from the Low Town car park to the council house while in Cannock, a procession marched to the war memorial where poppy wreaths were laid at the war memorial.

All kitted out – Don Higham and John Vaughan, with a 1943 Harley Davidson

Visitors to Cosford enjoyed a performance from the The Glebe Symphonic Winds Orchestra, which held an hour-long concert for an audience which included service personnel and veterans.

They were treated to classical pieces from Edward Elgar and Gustav Holst, mixed up with more modern music from Elton John and David Bowie.

There were also special performances at Himley Hall, where singing trio the D-Day Darlings performed some of the most popular songs of the wartime era.

There was a touching tribute to ex-service personnel in attendance as they were honoured during a special veteran's badge presentation. Hundreds flocked to the park, where a funfair kept children entertained. Military vehicles and an army helicopter were also in the grounds as visitors got the chance to speak to service personnel about their roles.

Veteran Arthur Hilton, 81, from Wordsley, who was awarded the George Cross for bravery in 1953, said: "I love it, I come every year.

"It's a great day and good that people come out for the armed forces. It is getting bigger and bigger every year."

Medal

Sean Donaghey, from Telford, was attending the event to see his son-in-law, who serves in the territorial army, receive a medal.

He said: "It's important that people come out to support the armed forces. It's a good day out and gives people the chance to see what they actually do."

Civil war re-enactors also put on a demonstration for the crowds while there was also a tribute to the Queen to mark her 90th birthday and becoming the longest serving monarch.

The RAF Cosford Voluntary Band performed the spectacular Beating Retreat finale following the flypast by the RAF Battle of Britain Memorial Flight Team.

Various other events took place across the West Midlands to mark Armed Forces Day.

The National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire hosted a special day of activities on Saturday which included an annual service of thanks.

High Street, Brierley Hill (on the corner) | CARPET FACTORY OUTLETS | 01384 263149

SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE SALE

Brintons
CLEARANCE CENTRE
CALL IN OR GO ONLINE TODAY
www.carpetfactoryoutletskidderminster.com

New click flooring department
OPENING OFFER 10% OFF
OPEN SUNDAY 10am - 2pm

Victoria Soft touch 50 special
from £13.95 sq. mtr 6 Colours
Heavy Domestic 50 80/20 Twist
from £13.95 sq. mtr
Stain Free Twist
from £12.95 sq. mtr
Karndean Flooring SALE PRICES

Brintons | VICTORIA CARPETS | BROCKWAY | Karndean Designflooring DEDICATED SHOWROOM | The Home of Flooring

Disturbed how friend Cliff was treated

I am usually very proud to be a British citizen but, as I write, I confess that my pride has been severely dented by recent events.

I am privileged to have known Sir Cliff Richard for many years. We have worked together in countless charitable initiatives and I am honoured to call him a good friend.

I have worked closely with him, have visited his home on numerous occasions and would trust him with my life. He is a man of integrity, honesty and honourable values, and I am deeply disturbed with the way our establishment and justice system have treated him over the erroneous accusations that were made against him.

For 22 months this man has been – in his own words – 'live bait' as a result of the total ineptitude of a police force. I do not consider that the corporation acted in the public's interest, using part of my licence fee to launch a helicopter to salaciously record the search of Sir Cliff's home in his absence and without giving him prior warning. It was party to the police's invasion of privacy.

The behaviour of these two organisation was astonishingly cavalier. The BBC has attempted an apology, which is too little too late, and the South Yorkshire Police has made some attempt at recognising their shortcomings. 'Lessons learned' is not good enough as the only lesson learned is that it will happen again unless something changes. It is deeply disturbing that someone can be named and shamed before charges are brought. It now transpires that the accusations were totally without substance and merit.

DAVE POPE
CEO, Flame Trust, Dudley

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

EMAIL
dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

So pleased Hippodrome now saved

I am writing in praise of saving the Dudley Hippodrome. Thank goodness common sense has prevailed at long last.

I worked at the Hippodrome from 1976 to 1983, I was assistant manageress. Happy days. I have so many memories and all good. I worked seven days and nights most weeks, staff and customers were the best ever I could wish for, we were like a happy family.

I was privileged to meet many stars, Pat Phoenix, Noele Gordon, Ken Dodd, Lenny Henry (especially his mum, Winnie) Emile Ford (What Do You Want To Make Those Eyes At Me For?) when we duetted together when we were raising money to save the zoo when threatened with closure.

There's much work to be done, but if we all come together and help, the good old Hippodrome will rise from the ashes. Good luck team.

M SLATER JEFFS
Dudley

New multi-purpose venue a better idea

YOU cannot help but admire the commitment and enthusiasm that the Friends of Dudley Hippodrome have shown in saving Dudley Hippodrome from demolition.

Would it not be more worthwhile to go ahead with the demolition of this old building? It is a blot on the landscape and will cost millions of pounds to bring up to modern standards. It could be replaced with a more modern structure? If the money that the Friends are fundraising for could be used to employ an architect who specialises in multi-functional buildings, using the expertise within the Friends group with Dudley Council officers they could produce a building that would be functional and blend in within the unique landscape of Castle Hill.

It would be used as a multi-purpose venue for theatre productions, boxing events, opera, theatre, workshops, amateur productions, the list goes on and on. This new structure would link the town with the zoo, castle, Black Country Living Museum, Archives and Dudley Canal Trust. It would become Dudley Community Theatre, or the Black Country Community Theatre. It would certainly be the jewel in Dudley's crown and a gateway to the town.

DT DAVIES
Dudley

Closure of home is wrong move

I read with horror of Dudley Council's decision to close Russell Court care home. I would like to raise the following points with Councillor Zada and others who voted in support of this foolish, short-sighted decision.

The pressure that is placed upon Russells Hall Hospital due to elderly patients being fit for discharge but unable to return home due to their living circumstances is tremendous.

I know that Russell Court is first class in the care it provided to my 96-year-old grandmother following a fall. The wonderful and caring staff treated her with such care and compassion. I will never forget their kindness.

I also note that the home has nine long-term residents. Now it is all very well to say let's move them elsewhere, I don't think that Councillor Zada understands the impact this will have upon these residents.

P TIMMINS
Dudley

WOULD YOU LIKE FRESHER, SMOOTHER SKIN WITH FEWER WRINKLES AND SCARS?

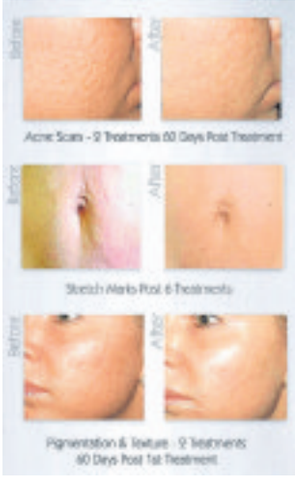
Our brand new Collagen PIN treatment is for you.

It's one of the most advanced methods of micro skin needling treatment available, non-invasive, virtually pain-free and clinically proven to stimulate your own natural collagen and elastin.

Your skin will become firmer, regaining elasticity. Fine lines and wrinkles will be visibly reduced, pores become finer, circulation is stimulated and the overall condition of your skin will improve dramatically - get that youthful plumpness back.

Why collagen PIN treatment?

* Collagen PIN is safer than dermal rollers, using sterile single-use surgical grade disposable needle tips.
* For once quicker, truly is better! Collagen PIN's powerful motor means quick perforation by the needles for a more comfortable experience (described as a vibrating tickle!)



* Treatment can be customised for your skin as we can **adjust the needle depth** to suit your needs.
* Collagen PIN treatment has a shorter recovery time than many other skin needling treatments so you can continue your daily routine very shortly after treatment.

Results

Clients notice an immediate "glow" to their skin. Visible changes develop over the course of several days and weeks and results continue to improve for up to six months as collagen production increases.

* Smooth away wrinkles, folds and crow's feet - very effective on the neck and chest
* Reduces open pores.
* Improves the appearance of scars, especially indented or pitted acne scars.
* Improves the appearance of cellulite and stretch marks.
* Virtually pain free!

Tej & Co

TO BOOK OR FOR A FREE CONSULTATION
Call us: 01384 824039
58B South Road Norton, Stourbridge DY8 3YB
email us:
info@tejandco.co.uk
visit us at:
www.tejandco.co.uk

Intro Offer
20% off treatment
including aftercare products
Quote SC20PIN
RRP £225.

CONTEMPORARY & ELEGANT

Bi-fold doors
Fitted Aluminium or uPVC
From £1800 fitted

Full Range of the Latest Composite Doors

From £690 fitted

+PLUS+

ENTERPRISE GLASS & GLAZING Ltd
of Brierley Hill

Enterprise Glass and Glazing Ltd are based in the Brierley Hill area of the West Midlands and since the early 1980's have built a reputation as a leading installer of quality windows, conservatories and doors direct to the public.

MISTED UNITS?
Replacements,
Glass cut to size...
Telephone today
Free Quotation
01384 571217

Design & Service You Can Trust!

Find us at: **Vine Street, Brierley Hill DY5 1JE** Telephone: **01384 571217** and talk to us today
Fax: **01384 571427** Email: **sales@enterpriseglazing.co.uk** **www.enterpriseglazing.co.uk**

Huge rise in child cruelty and neglect cases 'shames' nation

THE number of child cruelty and neglect cases recorded by West Midlands Police has soared by 66 per cent in three years, according to the NSPCC's annual child protection review How Safe Are Our Children?

It shows parents or carers were reported in connection with 2,147 offences in 2014/15, compared to 1,293 in 2012/13.

Across England, the total rose by 40 per cent, from 6,069 in 2012/13 to 8,506 in 2014/15. The huge increase in cases is reflected in the number of calls made to the NSPCC helpline – more than 16,000 – about children suffering neglect.

Adults called with fears about children who were starving and dirty, lived in rat-infested homes, while other contacts reported parents who were drunk or left their children to fend for themselves.

Neglect is a feature in six out of 10 serious case reviews, which are undertaken when a child dies, or is seriously injured, and abuse is believed to have been a factor.

Sandra McNair, NSPCC West Midlands head of service, said: "Neglect is the most common form of abuse in the UK and can seriously harm a child's brain development, emotional well-being, ability to form relationships, and mental health.

"These children are more likely to suffer from depression and post-traumatic disorder and even suicidal thoughts. For some, neglect can be fatal.

"Many of these lonely, frightened, children have to resort to desperate measures to survive after being left to fend for themselves. It shames our nation that these numbers are so high."

It's unclear why the figures have risen so dramatically, but greater public awareness and improvements in how police record offences could be factors.

Oarsome Phil in a million metre row

A STOURBRIDGE businessman has completed his challenge of rowing one million metres in the gym for charity.

Phil Fellows, who owns Swinford Graphics, has been took on the gruelling challenge at Stourbridge's Pump Gym in aid of Sunfield, a residential special school in Clent.

Phil has clocked up 621 miles since October 13 when he first started his challenge at gym sessions before and after work.

The challenge has so far seen him raise £295 for the school.

Phil said: "Sunfield is a great local charity who do fantastic work and I just wanted to do something to help them on an ongoing basis."

Mr Fellows completed the Black Country Run in 2014 raising more than £350. Last year he completed his first gym challenge for Sunfield, raising £480 by running 500 miles.

To support his fundraising visit justgiving.com/Phil-Fellows1.

Auction for the million pound doorstop

The precious rare Chinese antique vase held by auctioneer Charles Hanson

A VASE used as a doorstop in a Black Country home could fetch a staggering £1 million at auction.

The antique has since been found to be a Chinese artefact from the 18th century.

The rare blue and white vase was discovered propping a door open in a home and has been described as 'the find of a lifetime' by auctioneers.

But the address of the owner will remain a secret until the artefact is sold tomorrow (Friday).

The vase was discovered by Hanson's Auctioneers associate director Adrian Rathbone.

After a careful assessment, a guide price for the vase has been set at £300,000 to £500,000.

"It is the dream of a find," said Charles Hanson, of Hanson's Auctioneers. "It was owned by a great aunt Florrie who acquired it in Cornwall in the 1920s, and the couple who now own it used it as a doorstop.

"It's the find of a lifetime and has the chance of topping £1m if a battle between the Far Eastern heavyweight collectors takes off."

Made in China during the reign of Emperor Qianlong (1735-99), of the Qing dynasty, experts believe the vase was possibly made by the Imperial kilns for the Emperor's Summer Palace.

The vase is to be sold in the Summer Fine Art Auction being held at Hansons Auctioneers on Heage Lane in Etwall, between Derby and Burton-upon-Trent. For further details see www.hansonsauctioneers.co.uk

Family fun at annual party in park event

MORE than 7,000 people are expected to descend on a Dudley borough park for an annual festival next Saturday, July 9.

Netherton Park is preparing to host entertainment for all the family from 10am.

For younger visitors there will be a bouncy pirate ship, quad bikes, giant inflatable slide, bungee trampolines, small children's rides and a paintball shooting range. There will also be bric-a-brac and market stalls, craft and jewellery stalls and a classic car display as well as Dudley Zoo staff bringing along a number of animals.

West Midlands Fire Service will be doing demonstrations on the day and there will be representatives from a range of organisations including Dudley Lions, Compton Hospice, Dudley Fostering, Black Country Wildlife Trust, Coombeswood Canal Trust, Mary Steven's Hospice and St John Ambulance.

An outdoor stage will be set up behind Netherton Arts Centre as well as a separate dance and performance area. Stage activities will include local bands and school groups.

Richard Johnson, of the Friends of Netherton Park, said: "I am sure it will be a great day again. This year will be the 11th year we have put on the event with it growing year on year."

Wolves All Stars to play in aid of hospital

A WOLVES All Stars team are taking on hospital workers in a charity match in aid of the emergency department at Russells Hall Hospital in Dudley.

The game is to be played at Stourbridge Football Club's War Memorial ground in Amblecote on September 25 with a 2pm kick off.

There will also be a family fun day as part of the fundraising event.

Katie's story triumph helps her heal after op

AN inspirational teacher who was diagnosed with a brain tumour has published her first book after winning a national children's story competition.

Katie Smith, of Stourbridge, was struck down with debilitating headaches just weeks after returning from her honeymoon with husband Luke.

Following her diagnosis the 31-year-old was told that she may not live to see her 40th birthday.

But now she has won a writing competition launched by ITV's Lorraine Kelly.

Katie, who is head of English at a Wyre Forest school, said: "Not long after I got back from my honeymoon, I started to have dreadful headaches. I assumed that they were migraines.

Urgent

"I was referred for a scan and although it was requested as 'urgent' I wasn't too worried. That evening I had a call from my doctor who broke the news that they had found something and I needed to go to Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham straight away. Luke and I cried together and agreed that we would take things a day at a time."

Katie's operation lasted four hours and 90 per cent of the tumour was removed.

In February she was told that there was a one-in-three chance the tumour would be back in five years and that there was only a 50 per cent chance of her making it to 40.

She decided to make a bucket list while also dealing with her mother's prognosis of Non-Hodgkin lymphoma.

"Over the weeks we've spent quite a lot of time sitting around watching daytime TV together and when

Katie Smith recovering from surgery to remove the brain tumour

Katie and her husband Luke during their honeymoon in New York

we saw Lorraine Kelly announce her Top Tales competition to find a new children's author we decided that we would enter," said Katie.

"I was the only one who actually did and when I was invited onto the show and it was announced live that I was the winner, it took my breath away.

"When I was off-camera the tears just wouldn't stop. It was wonderful to have achieved something like that at such an awful time. To be told that the publishers knew little if anything about my brain tumour and be reassured that I didn't win on a sympathy vote and that it was all about the story was just what I wanted to hear."

The book, called The Pumpkin Project, will be published by Hachette Children's Books in autumn. The main character is a kind eight-year-old called Lottie who together with her grandpa sets about growing a pumpkin for a school project and becomes a celebrity in the process.

Katie said: "My goals at the moment are to see my book published and to be among the 20 per cent of people who live for more than five years after a brain tumour diagnosis. The public support for an online petition backed by Brain Tumour Research was incredible."

Visit braintumourresearch.org for details or to donate visit justgiving.com/braintr and quote 'Katie Smith'.

THE STD MASSIVE CLEARANCE SALE

Brintons Axminster..... £16.95 sq. yd.
Sensations heathers..... £12.95 sq. yd.
Wiltons Heavy Domestic..... £9.95 sq. yd.
Majestic Saxony Stainfree..... £9.95 sq. yd.
Apollo + ... £6.95 sq. yd
Vinyls..... £7.95 sq. yd.
Care Free Felt Back ..... £3.95 sq. yd.

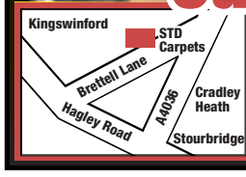
Plus many more great offers Instore

FACTORY CLEARANCE OF OVER 200 PART ROLLS WITH SAVINGS OF UP TO 75%

STD are the largest stockists of carpets in the Midlands with the best selection, the best fitters, and are NEVER undercut on price

STD carpets

10% off All end rolls with this voucher (*First week of sale only)



Open 6 days a week 9.00 to 5.30
Sunday 10.30 to 4.00
Closed Wednesdays

Church Street, Brierley Hill
01384 76448

A Summer Sensation ... from RYDALE

Windows & Conservatories, Orangeries, Porches, Fascias & Soffit Boards

CELEBRATING Our 31st ANNIVERSARY 2016

RYDALE 10 YEAR Insurance Backed GUARANTEED

MASSIVE DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE ON JULY INSTALLATIONS

Every window and conservatory is custom made to the most rigorous quality standards you will find in the industry.

No other company in the area has more experience and know how than Rydale, and that's why we have been in business for more than 31 years.

REPAIR SERVICE AVAILABLE

Supplied & Fitted...across the Midlands

Replace the existing roof on your conservatory and create a comfortable environment and a room you can use all year round

ULTIMATE SECURITY GUARANTEE
Rydale take security very seriously Guaranteed high security on ALL products
Full details on request

Long Lane, Blackheath, Halesowen B62 9LS

Open Weekdays 9am to 5.30pm
Saturday 9am to 4pm Sunday Closed

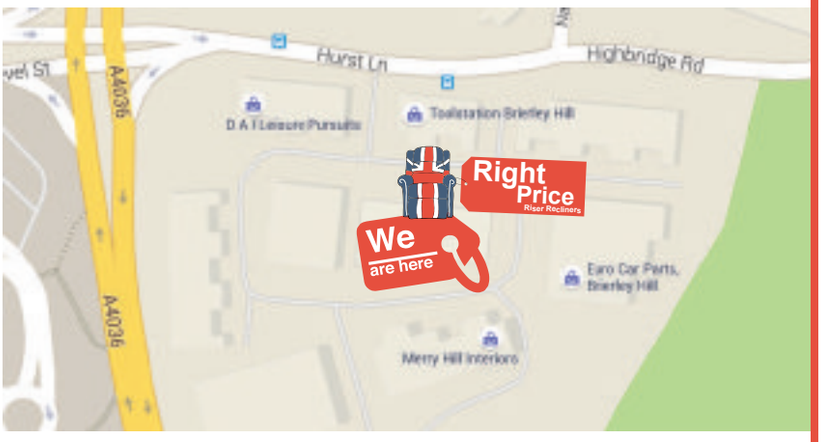
No deposits or stage payments, you only pay when the installation has been completed

Make the RIGHT decision this Spring and give Rydale a ring...

FREEPHONE 0800 917 6060
www.rydalewindows.co.uk

Right Price
Riser Recliners

Your **number-one location** for **great value.**



Riser Recliner Chairs & Adjustable Beds

At Right Price we have a wide range of styles, sizes and fabrics all at amazingly low prices. Our friendly staff will take time and care during your visit, and will even make time for a cup of tea!

Save up to £1000 on Chairs and Beds
Largest selection of of over 70 chairs in stock

Freephone: **0800 999 7525**

Unit 36 Enterprise Trading Estate
Pedmore Road, Brierley Hill, DY5 1TX

Chairs from £299

Take away **Today** & 3 Day Delivery

Made in **UK**

Warranty

Beds from £299

Made to fit you

50% OFF RRP

Opening Times
9 – 5 Mon – Sat
10 – 4 Sun

Save **£80** with this advert
with FREE delivery and install

MADE IN THE B.C

Rollators now £54.99

Your **number-one location** for **great value.** Freephone: **0800 999 7525**

Pride of place for Dudley Bug and Coseley Spider

THE Dudley Bug and the Coseley Spider are among the major scientific finds taking pride of place at the revamped Lapworth Museum of Geology, which has opened in Birmingham after a £2.7 million refit.

The museum, at the heart of the University of Birmingham, has undergone a massive refurbishment. It aims to explore life in the Midlands over the past 3.5 billion years, with displays looking at rocks, fossils, volcanoes, earthquakes and dinosaurs.

The Dudley Bug is a 428 million year old trilobite. They looked like giant woodlice and the fossils were found in the limestone caverns under Dudley. The Coseley Spider, or Eophrynus prestvicii, is a spider-like arachnid from the late Carboniferous Period, which around 315 million years ago. It was a predator chasing its prey before finishing it off with its powerful jaws.

The Dudley Bug

The Coseley Spider

Museum director Jon Clatworthy (left) with keeper of collections Richard Butler
Pictures: John James from the University of Birmingham

Earthquakes

Also on display will be the JJ Shaw seismograph. Mr Shaw (1873-1948) was a West Bromwich-based pawnbroker who became interested in earthquakes.

He built a device to record earthquakes, using bits of bikes, tin cans, knitting needles and anything else he could find.

When it turned out that it actually worked he had his prototype precision-made and turned his greenhouse and cellar at his West Bromwich home into a mini production line.

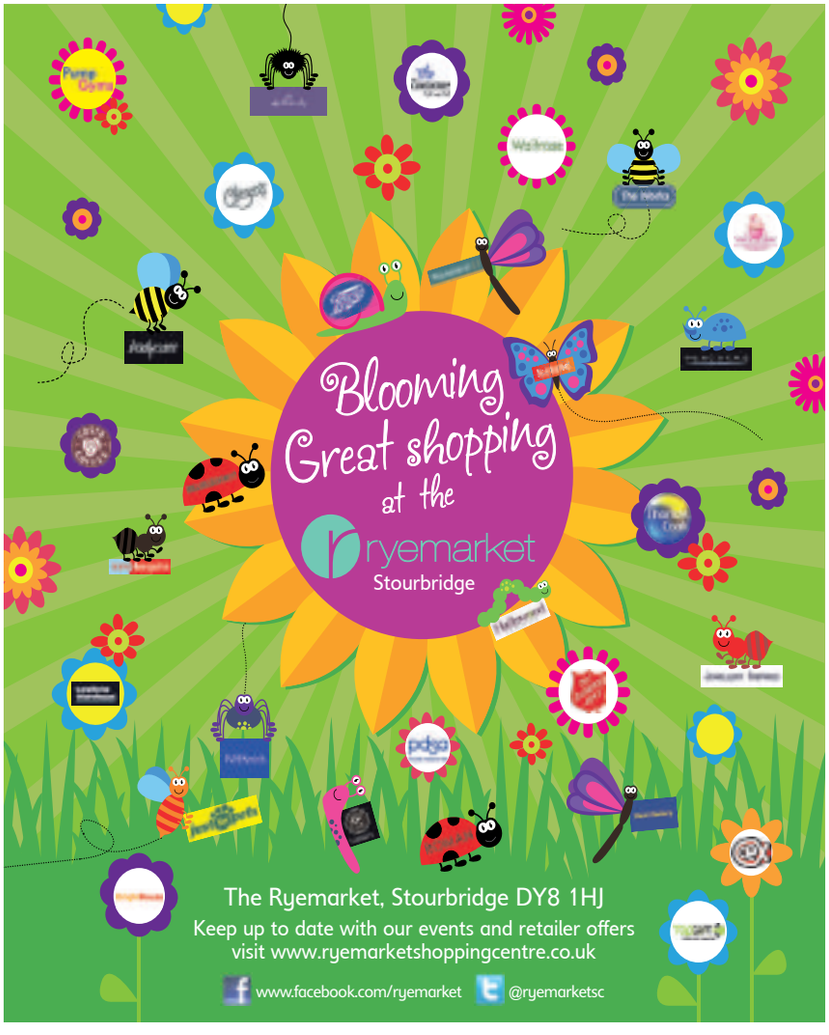
The seismograph was distributed around the world and became the standard device for measuring earthquakes.

Shaw also recorded earthquakes at his seismic observatory in his home.

The Lapworth Museum has been closed for nearly two years prior to the re-opening last week.

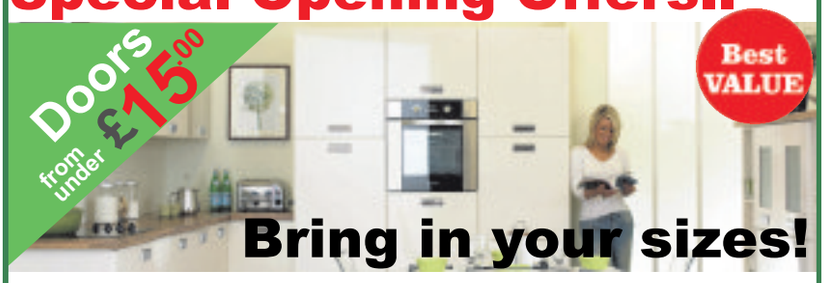
Museum director Jon Clatworthy said: "The new exhibits will provide a far more hands-on approach to learning about the 3.5 billion years of history we showcase." The museum is open 10am to 5pm Monday to Friday, from noon to 5pm on Saturday and Sunday. It is free admission.

The museum is located at the university's Edgbaston campus, off the Ring Road South.



Now Open!

Special Opening Offers..



Kitchens Priced to Sell..

No reasonable offer refused!

Worktops
All Sizes from £30

Best Prices in the Midlands

Makeovers
& Kitchens - Save £££'s

Bedrooms
Sliding Robes & Fitted Units

- Free Home Quotes
- On the Spot Prices
- Call in or Call us TODAY!

Trade Enquiries are Welcome!

The Midlands No.1 for Value

Star Makeovers
218 High Street Lye DY9 8JX
01384 891893
Call for a Deal today!

For a Price List or Home Quote
www.msmo.co.uk

AKAI BRAUN BOSCH Breville CARMEN DeLonghi dyson Elgento Ewbank KENWOOD

TOP BRAND ELECTRICAL ITEMS AT BARGAIN PRICES

TOWER AIR MICROWAVE
FROM £75

SWAN RETRO MIXER
£50

10% DISCOUNT
on purchases of £20 or above on production of this advert.
Valid until 08.07.2016 DY Express and Star

STOVE FIRES
£40

DYSON UPRIGHTS
FROM £40

6 IN 1 MOP
FROM £20

RETRO MUSIC SYSTEM
FROM £45

CERAMIC SAUCEPAN SET
FROM £20

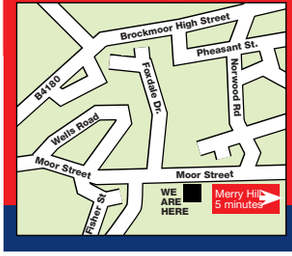
HENRY AND HETTY
£75

KABOOM
FROM ~~£30~~ £25 WITH THIS ADVERT
100 GRAM STEAM GENERATOR

MICROWAVES
FROM £25
6 Colours Available

GRADED PRODUCT SPECIALIST

All of our products will carry a warranty...



Kettle & Toaster Man

TRADE WAREHOUSE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Unit 2C, Albion Works, Moor St., Brierley Hill, West Midlands DY5 3SZ

Est. Over 20 Years

Tel: 01384 483 286

OPEN: Mon-Fri 8am-4pm, Sat 8am-12pm

www.kettleandtoasterman.co.uk

We **specialise** in finding you the **best deals** available on daily basis. We stock electrical and other amazing retail products at up to **90% off the normal retail selling price.**

MANY MORE OFFERS IN STORE ...

AKAI BRAUN BOSCH Breville CARMEN DeLonghi dyson Elgento Ewbank

Fleetwood Mac fan makes appeal to veteran gig goers

IS it just one of those Rumours or the stuff of Dreams but did music legends Fleetwood Mac play Wolverhampton Civic Hall back in 1970.

The venue's bosses can't find the concert in the records and are now appealing to the public for help.

Former Wulfrunian Dave Finley, aged 63, who emigrated to Australia in the 1980s, said he was sure the band had played at the Civic or adjoining Wulfrun Hall around 1970. He emailed the Civic for confirmation but the venue has no record of the concert.

Mr Finley said: "I am currently writing recollections from my life and I have a memory of going to the Civic Hall or Wulfrun to see the band in or around 1970. It was the first date with my then girlfriend Bernadette Evans. I was an apprentice at Dowty Boulton Paul Aircraft Ltd. I was 17-years-old and studying at Wulfrun College. I am sure I got hold of tickets for the Fleetwood Mac gig and asked her to go with me. I had cheap tickets at the back but we walked to the third row which only had one person sitting in it.

"The line-up was odd. I understood it to be the first, or a trial, without Pete Green. I find it odd that the Fleetwood Mac site, which lists all of their tours since the start, does not mention this concert."

Mr Finley, now a grandfather of seven, married Berndette (known as Dette) and they lived in Newbridge until emigrating in 1982. They divorced after 25 years. "I see both Dette and my second – also divorced – wife daily and we all get on well," he added. Anyone who can recall the gig is asked to email www.wolvescivic.co.uk with information.

Mr Finley, centre here with family, has happy memories of a Fleetwood Mac concert in Wolverhampton

Sea Life Centre has a Dory story

THE National Sea Life Centre Birmingham has teamed up with Disney-Pixar to enable its visitors this summer to share the excitement of a newly-released animated movie.

A special Disney-Pixar Finding Dory event will be hosted from July 16 until September 11 at the Midlands' based attraction, as well as 11 other Sea Life centres in the UK and Ireland.

Visitors will be led on an interactive trail by one of the new movie's star sea creatures Hank (voiced by Ed O'Neill), a cantankerous octopus.

"Hank will appear in displays right through each centre, revealing amazing fishy facts and providing collectible 'letters' which will need unscrambling at the end of the journey to earn a reward," said event organiser Jamie Turner.

"Like Finding Nemo before it, the new film is likely to inspire an interest in marine life among millions of children."

For more information or to pre-book tickets online visit www.sealife.co.uk/birmingham

Dog that bit woman will not be destroyed

A DANGEROUS dog that mauled a woman's hand as she went to stroke it will not be destroyed, a court heard.

The eight-year-old American bulldog and Staffordshire bull terrier cross, named Geezer, was off the lead with owner Maurice Hutchinson when the attack on Wendy Young happened in Dudley.

The victim, who was visiting her sister at Claverley Court, was taken to hospital needing treatment for serious injuries.

She had been heading into the foyer when Hutchinson walked in with his dog. She lowered her right hand to greet the animal when it bit into her hand and would not let go.

Hutchinson, aged 62, who lives in Claverley Court, hit the dog with his stick to try and get it to release Ms Young's hand but to no avail.

By Jessica Labhart

Released

He then kicked the dog, which then released its grip in the incident on June 6 last year. Ms Young was treated in hospital for three puncture wounds and tendon damage.

Appearing at Dudley Magistrates Court, Hutchinson was charged with being the owner of a dog which was dangerously out of control.

He was issued with a curfew, meaning he must be at his home address from 10pm to 6am every day for three months. He was also ordered to pay a total of £395, including costs of £85, compensation to the victim of £250 and a victim surcharge of £60. Magistrate Teresa Popplewell also made the dog subject to a contingent destruction order – meaning that it must be muzzled and on a lead whenever outside of Mr Hutchinson's home, should only be walked by someone aged 18 and above and must be neutered and insured. The microchip identity details of the dog must also be passed to the dangerous dogs unit at West Midlands Police.

An assessment of the dog, carried out by the police, revealed that the dog became agitated and aggressive when put on a lead and became easily stressed, without inhibition to bite.

Magistrate Popplewell said: "We have heard the report of what happened on June 6 and have taken a long time to think about what to do in this case.

"With a contingent destruction order, there are conditions you have to comply with if you want to keep your dog. He must also be under control when persons enter your home address and needs to be insured and neutered."

New marathon to run in Birmingham

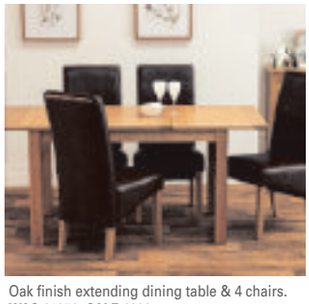
THE date for a new Birmingham marathon to be held next year has been announced.

The inaugural Birmingham International Marathon will take place on Sunday, October 15 2017. The marathon, which has already attracted huge levels of interest, will start at Alexander Stadium and finish in the heart of the city.

Former long-distance runner and BBC athletics commentator Brendan Foster, who is chairman of the Great Run Company, which has organised the event, said: "Our ambition for the Birmingham International Marathon is to do in the autumn what the London Marathon does in spring – to provide a world-class opportunity for top athletes through to people who just want to raise money for charity."

The marathon will be staged on the same day in 2017 as the well-established half marathon in the city.

Modern large sofa in a textured natural fabric.
WAS £999 SALE £499
EXTRA discount price £349 SAVE £650



Oak finish extending dining table & 4 chairs.
WAS £1079 SALE £809
EXTRA discount price £499 SAVE £580

Natural oak effect sliding robe.
WAS £599 SALE £429
EXTRA discount price £249 SAVE £350

Silentnight Miracoil luxury storage divan set.
WAS £649 SALE £399
EXTRA discount price £349 SAVE £300

Level Street
Merry Hill, Dudley
West Midlands
DY5 1UA
T. 01384 77444

WILLIAM&SONS
www.williamandsons.co.uk

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK...
Monday to Friday 10-5.30pm
Saturday 10-6pm
Sunday 11-5pm

We'll not be beaten on Price! That's our 'Price Promise' to you!
Visit us at **www.williamandsons.co.uk** and sign up to hear about our latest news & offers!

Alstons Baker bardi FURNISHART Harrison HTL KINGSTOWN MYER'S rauch Relyon POU Sleepeze TCS WADE

0% APR REPRESENTATIVE **0% APR Representative** *Deferred interest free credit offer available on orders over £399. Representative Example: Cash Price £399. Deposit £0. Total Amount of Credit £399. Duration of the Agreement 18 months. 12 x Monthly Repayments of £33.25 starting 6 months after delivery or collection. Annual Rate of Interest 0%. Representative APR 0%. Total Amount Payable £399. Written details available on request. Credit is subject to status. Terms & Conditions apply. Price Match Promise Terms & Conditions apply. Ask in store or see our website for further details. All offers subject to availability E&OE.

CHRONICLE

MEET THE STOURBRIDGE ADVERTISING TEAM CELEBRATING 30 YEARS ANNIVERSARY

Call the team for future advertising **01384 399901**

Now Dexys indeed do Irish and soul

ALBUMS

by Leon Burakowski

MORE than 30 years after he first had the idea, Kevin Rowland has finally recorded his 'Irish' album.

Backed by the barebone 21st century **Dexys**, the former Brummie hairdresser also injects a fair bit of soul into the portentously entitled **Let The Record Show: Dexys Do Irish and Country Soul**. It remains more influenced by Van Morrison than the folk music of his Emerald Isle ancestors and enjoyment depends entirely on your stance over the impassioned, highly distinctive Rowland whoops and warbles.

Lovely opener Women Of Ireland, highlighting the violin of Come On Eileen fiddler (and former Birmingham Conservatoire student) Helen O'Hara, sets the Celtic tone. It continues with Curragh of Kildare, Carrickfergus, 40 Shades of Green and Irish pub favourite I'll Take You Home Again, Kathleen.

I think old time Dexys fans will prefer versions of The Bee Gees' To Love Somebody and Rod Stewart's You Wear it Well, and the soulful retro pop of Grazing In The Grass. The Marmite track, for Rowland devotees only, is his showboating performance of Smoke Gets In Your Eyes.

Wolverhampton's **Beverley Knight** confirms her status as the UK's Queen of Soul on her back-to-basics album **Soulsville**, including a neat cover of Private Number with Jamie Cullum and a potent version of Ann Peebles classic I Can't Stand The Rain. She also teams up with Sam Moore (from soul legends Sam and Dave) for a version of Hold On I'm Coming, after taking on blues standard Hound Dog and winning with the assistance of Jools Holland.

Kevin Rowland, centre, explores his Irish roots on the new Dexys album

It can be argued that French synth duo **Air** peaked too early, that the output since their ultra-cool debut album Moon Safari has failed to live up to its retro yet also futuristic sound. Whilst Moon Safari does provide the stand-out tracks on **twentyyears**, their 31-track double CD retrospective, there is lots more to enjoy, such as the crunchy Don't Be Light and the lovely mood music of Alone in Kyoto.

Former Prince associate Xavier, now operating under the moniker **Fantastic Negrito**, brings the blues kicking and screaming into the 21st century on his impressive and hard-hitting album **The Last Days Of Oakland**.

Hip hop collides with the blues, sharing a cry of rage, whilst he also offers a brilliant version of folk song In The Pines (also known as Where Did You Sleep Last Night?), previously recorded by Lead Belly and Nirvana.

One of the best live bands around, **Augustines**, charge out of the gate firing on all cylinders on their third album **This Is Your Life**. Singer Billy McCarthy's heart-on-his-sleeve style and his band's rollicking ramshackle rock 'n' roll potency, which makes the New Yorkers such an exciting prospect on stage, transfers to the album right from the off with lead single Are We Alive? The songs are big, beefy and honest.

They are due to play the Rainbow Warehouse in Digbeth on October 20.

Piano, percussion and sax trio **Mammal Hands** present a brilliant set of cool modern accessible jazz on their second album **Floa**.

There are a clutch of fine new albums from distinctive singer-songwriters from the indie alt-rock scene, proving that there is lots of creativity and integrity worth exploring beyond the commercial behemoth Ed Sheeran.

Recommended listens include: **Waltzed In From The Rumbling**, the analogue crafted fourth album from Canadian outfit **Plants And Animals** fronted by Warren Spicer; meditations on loss of innocence from County Antrim's **Ciaran Lavery** on his second album **Let Bad In**; beautiful and uplifting songs from Danish singer-songwriter **Søren Juul**, formerly known as Indians, on his 4AD album **This Moment**.

Thursday 14th July 2016
Black Country Day at The Elton Centre

Age Concern Stourbridge

A special day of celebrations starting at 10.00 am down memory lane in our coffee lounge with morning coffee, tea and biscuits. £1.50 per person

From 12 noon, a Black Country lunch of faggotts and peas, mash or chips, alternatively fish and chips, bread and butter, apple pie and custard, and talks on the Folklore of the Black Country from £5.10 per person.

At 2.00pm onwards, you are invited to join us dressed in your finery, hats or whatever, to partake of afternoon tea like grandma used to serve in her best room, comprising of cakes, jam and scones, sandwiches, and for a little extra you can have strawberries and cream and on this very special day we have invited the Black Country comedienne MARLENE to entertain you with her Black Country humour. Tables for 4, only a few left. £5.00 per person

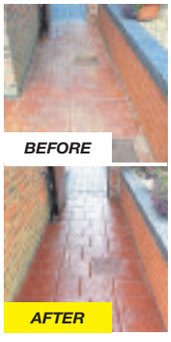
Everyone welcome but please book in advance for lunch and tea.

Age Concern Stourbridge and Halesowen, The Elton Centre, off Parkfield Road, Stourbridge DY8 1HA.
Telephone: 01384 309965 / 443296

AGEconcern Stourbridge & Halesowen

DO YOU HAVE A BLOCK PAVING OR CONCRETE IMPRINT DRIVE?

- WEEDS GROWING THROUGH?
- CRACKS APPEARING?
- UNUSUALLY SLIPPERY WHEN WET?
- COLOUR FADING?
- WHITE & GREEN ALGAE SPOTS?



AT BTF CLEANING WE SPECIALISE IN CLEANING, REPAIRING, RECOLOURING & SEALING DRIVEWAYS & PATIOS.
Our expert knowledge and experience brings back to life the most dull & worn of driveways & patios.
We also specialise in cleaning all uPVC conservatories, gutters, fascias & soffits.

BTF CLEANING SERVICES LIMITED
www.btfcleaningservices.co.uk
Narrow Lane, Halesowen, West Midlands. B62 9ND
Tel/Fax No: 01384 568345 Mob: 07979 211302

Midland UPVC Windows and Doors Ltd
Buy British

SAVE MONEY ON YOUR FUEL BILLS WITH OUR ENERGY RATED WINDOWS
JUNE SALE

Pictures for illustration purposes only

UPVC SALE 6 FLAT A RATED WINDOWS ANY SIZE
£1599.00 fitted
t&c's apply geographical & other restrictions apply.
Buy Direct from your local manufacturer

- Free Design service
- 10 yr Insurance back guarantee
- High security locks
- Energy saving windows & doors
- All built and installed by our own fitters
- OAP Discounts (t&c apply)

FANTASTIC NEW UPVC DOOR RANGE
GUARANTEED TO BEAT ANY GENUINE WRITTEN QUOTE

SPECIAL OFFER
PVC DOOR from £385 fitted

ALL AREAS COVERED 01384 234170 / 01384 429152
VISIT OUR WEBSITE WWW.MIDLANDUPVC.CO.UK
midlandupvc@live.co.uk
OFFICE HOURS MONDAY TO FRIDAY 9AM TO 5PM

ELV RECYCLING LTD

- Vehicle Recovery, Depollution and Disposal
- Top Prices Paid • DVLA Certificate of Destruction
- Authorised Treatment Facility

• NEW PARTS DEPARTMENT NOW OPEN!
• Parts Line Call Direct 07875 470537
All makes and models including tyres and batteries, cheap prices, delivery available, 1 month's warranty on all parts
Opening times: Monday-Friday 8.30am-4.30pm and Saturday 8.30 am-1.00 pm
Fast and Friendly Service
ELV Recycling (Mids) Ltd Brierley Hill
01384 77308

Call for better security at store after theft from van

TWO brothers who run a gardening business in the Black Country have called for DIY giant B&Q to improve security after they were the latest victims in a spate of 40 thefts over a year at the Bilston store.

Ashley and Luke Norman, who run Lawn Enforcers, had £1,000 worth of equipment stolen from their van at the Bilston branch last week.

Gear stolen from the van included a mower, two strimmers and a post hole borer.

The pair had parked in in the area where tradesmen load their goods, but while they were in the store to pay for their supplies, the thieves struck. Due to there being no CCTV coverage, police told the pair that there was little they could do.

Ashley, 29, from Coseley, said: "I parked in the trade section. While I was inside, the stuff was taken. I just want to make people aware.

"We're going to just have to take the hit financially, because if we claimed on our insurance the premium would probably go up so much that it wouldn't be worth it.

"Luckily we've got plenty of work but if this had happened this time last year the business wouldn't have survived."

A spokesperson for B&Q said: "We are aware of this incident. Unfortunately, this particular section of the car park is not currently covered by CCTV."

West Midlands Police logged 77 incidents at the store in the past year with 11 similar thefts.

Deb Edwards of West Midlands Police said: "If anybody has any information that they could help us with, please call us on 101."

Luke and Ashley Norman with their van that was raided when the visited Bilston's B&Q store

MP is backing bid to stop rich dodging tax

DUDLEY North MP Ian Austin has backed a move stop the very wealthy stashing their money in tax havens.

Labour Mr Austin has joined with a cross-party group of MPs calling for Government to publish figures on who owns what in the Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories.

The Government is currently planning to collect this information but share it only with HM Revenue & Customs on a confidential basis.

Mr Austin has previously backed the Multinational Enterprises (Financial Transparency) Bill, which would force multinational companies to come clean on tax.

Mr Austin said: "People in Dudley want big businesses to invest in Britain, but they want them to pay their fair share of tax too.

"While millions of families and the vast majority of British firms pay their fair share, it's not right that some firms don't. That's why I'm backing this proposal to make sure that big companies and rich individuals can't get away with making deals in private so that they can pick and choose the tax they pay."

Move to ban shoplifter from area's retail parks

POLICE want to ban one of the Black Country's most prolific shoplifters from up to five retail parks in the area, it has been revealed.

The move comes after a security guard feared he was about to die after having a pair of scissors pressed against his throat by Raphael Scarlett.

The 35-year-old – who has clocked up 137 previous convictions including 85 for theft and dishonesty – was spotted stealing coffee and chocolate worth £69 at B&M in Axeltree Way, Wednesbury, on April 20.

By John Scott

As he was detained by guard Darren Nelson, Scarlett grabbed a pair of scissors from a desk after being taken to the security office of the store.

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard that Mr Nelson struggled to disarm him. He later told police: "I felt metal on my neck and it was pushing into my neck. I thought I was going to die.

"I thought of my family and the way it was coming to an end."

Scarlett fled from the shop and was trying to escape on his bike when Mr Nelson again managed to stop him, said Mr Robert Edwards, prosecuting.

Mr Will Rose, defending, said Scarlett was desperate to avoid going back to prison.

He explained: "He panicked and made the very foolish decision to pick up the scissors."

Scarlett from Grenville Drive, Smethwick, pleaded guilty to affray and theft and was jailed for one year and 10 months by Recorder James Steel QC.

Recorder Steel said "It was fortuitous that you did no more harm to Mr Nelson whose actions should be commended."

Police will now press for a Criminal Behaviour Order to be made against Scarlett. It is a civil order aimed at restricting the ability of an individual to commit crime.

They want him outlawed from up to five specified retail parks in Sandwell and Dudley and prevented from entering any shop unless he has sufficient money to pay for goods.

Detective Sergeant Leighton Shingles, from West Midlands Force CID at Smethwick, said: "He must be one of our most prolific shoplifters and his offending appears to be escalating with this assault on a member of staff.

"We want to protect businesses and the public in general.

"It is very unusual for the police to seek to restrict the free movement of somebody but in this case we believe that this would benefit the community at large."

Wolves legends to meet the fans

A FREE event at the Wolves Museum at the Molineux stadium is set to score a success with fans.

Club legends will be on hand between noon and 3pm to meet supporters on Friday, July 8, at the museum, where supporters will receive free entry and access to a special interactive Games Zone, History Zone and Cinema Zone.

Fans will also have the opportunity to have their football memorabilia valued by experts.

The event, which runs from 11.30am to 5pm, is part of the city council's Enjoy Wolverhampton initiative.

Wolves Head of Marketing Matt Grayson said: "The Wolves museum has established itself as a great family visitor attraction in the city, with £1 million invested to create a fantastic interactive football experience."

Booking is essential. Visit www.wolves.co.uk/tickets and select the Online Sales and Museum options. Select July 8th at the checkout and enter promotional code WWFCM.

HURRY, OFFER ENDS THIS SUNDAY 5PM!

5 YEARS INTEREST FREE

Pay nothing for a year,

then spread the cost over 48 months

HURRY THIS OFFER ENDS SUNDAY

Hurry, offer ends this Sunday 5pm, you can choose from Cousins magnificent range of brand-name furniture, carpets, beds and homewares then **spread the cost interest free** over 48 months **without paying a single penny for the first year!**

Buy any item at Cousins and you won't even need a deposit.

Come and browse at your leisure around 2 spacious floors of furniture, displayed in **inspirational room settings**.

LOW PRICES • GREAT OFFERS

Denby · Alexander · Parker Knoll · Harrison · HALO · TEMPUR · WILLIS & GAMBIER · DURESTA · ercol

Cousins

a true family business

FREE CAR PARKING • INSTORE RESTAURANT
LARGE STOCKS FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY

Open 7 days a week
Late Nights: Tuesday & Thursday until 8pm

Birmingham, Warwick Road, Tyseley. B11 2EW. T: 0121 765 3300
Dudley, Hall Street, DY2 8NW. T: 01384 451500
Manchester, A57, Regent Rd, Salford. M5 4EA. T: 0161 875 4070

www.cousinsfurniture.co.uk

0% APR REPRESENTATIVE

5 years interest free credit, pay nothing for the first year from date of order, available on all total orders over £200. For example: 3 seater sofa £480. Defer payments for 12 months then take 48 monthly payments of £10. Subject to status. Written details upon request. Offer not available on in-store concessions, clearance and web specials.

Read what our customers say...
97% Independently review our products as good/excellent.

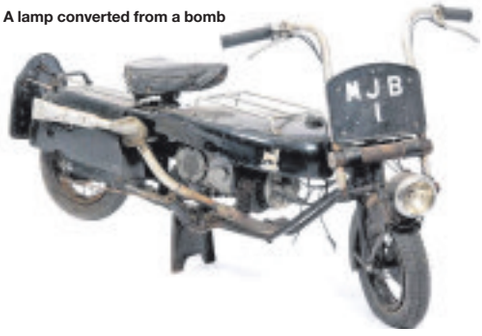
TRUSTED MERCHANT 2016 ★★★★★ feefo

Unique gifts for man in your life

Horse drawn London Hackney cab built around 1915

A lamp converted from a bomb

Edward VII 1902 gold and silver coins



The Corgi Brockhurst motorcycle, based on a World War Two design

A JET pilot's ejector seat, a motorbike from the 1950s and a lamp made from the tail fin of an RAF bomb – just some of the unique items up for grabs at a Black Country auction.

Fieldings Auctioneers, Stourbridge, will hold the Mantiques event on Saturday when buyers from across the world are expected to bid for items aimed at men.

Antique weapons, vintage toys and sporting memorabilia are just some of the things up for grabs.

"You never know what to expect," said auctioneer Mark Hannam, who has appeared on ITV's Flog It!

"A surprise collection of old football programmes from Wolverhampton fetched £5,000 in a previous auction."

Among the specialist items will be a pilot's ejector seat from an English Electric Canberra jet, which was built in the 1950s as a tactical nuclear strike aircraft and is expected to fetch between £1,800 to £2,000.

The jet was able to fly higher than any other aircraft of its time and in 1957 set a world record of reaching 70,310ft, or 13.3 miles.

Another unique lot is an early-50s MKIV Corgi Brockhurst motorcycle, which features a 98cc two-stroke engine. The bike, made between 1948 and 1954, has been given an estimated price of £500 to £700. It is a civilian version based on the Welbike, which was designed to be dropped by parachute to airborne troops in the Second World War.

A lamp converted from the tail fin of a 1,000lb RAF bomb is estimated to fetch between £150 and £200. While a collection of 13 Edward VII 1902 gold and silver coins, which come in a case, is estimated to fetch £2,000 to £2,500.

One item that may stir the appetite of buyers is a horse drawn London Hackney cab built around 1915.

It has been given a guide price of £4,000 to £6,000.

The ejector seat from a jet fighter

The Mantiques auction is now in its sixth year and Mr Hannam said it has gone from strength to strength.

"This year we have an ejector seat from a jet fighter from the 50s, it never ceases to amaze. It is not uncommon to get four to five thousand buyers in person or on the phone. We get a strong following from Britain, Ireland and bidders from the likes of America, Canada, Australia and the Middle East. There will be 650 lots up for sale in total."

"Antique weapons, nautical items, vintage postcards and cigarette packs can all be expected.

For details, visit fieldingsauctioneers.co.uk

YOUR CHOICE KITCHENS
YOUR CHOICE... FOR A BETTER KITCHEN

SUMMER SPECIAL OFFER
FREE
Fully Integrated
DISHWASHER
with every full
kitchen installation

EXTRA DISCOUNT FOR OUR RETIRED & DISABLED CUSTOMERS

Unit 5, Charterfield Shopping Centre, Charterfield Drive, Kingswinford, DY6 7SH
TELEPHONE: 01384 936939
VISA MasterCard
We are open 7 days a week

FREE COMPUTER AIDED PLANNING AND DESIGN SERVICE

Hilda in Oklahoma, 1965

With daughter Kay Woodhouse

The family, 2002, in Meet Me in St Louis

Hilda at the Old Vic pub with husband Jack

Her grandad, Solomon Dunn

Hilda with her sewing machine

Stitch in time for Hilda's half century on the stage

Hilda playing Julie LaVerne in Showboat

AFTER stitching and sewing thousands of costumes for the last 50 years Hilda Faulkner still remains at the heart of Cradley Heath Operatic Society.

Mrs Faulkner, aged 83, from Surfeit Hill Road, first got involved with the theatre society in 1965 after hearing about a show through a co-worker.

Little did she know that decades on she would be looking back on an illustrious amateur acting career having starred as the lead in numerous shows, while also making her name as the wardrobe mistress.

"It has been a labour of love," she laughed. "But it has been worth every minute. I first got involved when I was working in tailoring in Old Hill and the foreman was a member of another operatic society but his brother was part of the Cradley Heath one so I was invited along. I was 33 years old at the time. I initially started playing parts in the chorus and then eventually became lead."

MEMORY LANE

Report by Clare Butler

Over the years Mrs Faulkner has taken part in shows ranging from Showboat, The King & I, Oklahoma and Carousel, taking on older parts as the decades passed. In 1979 she played the lead, Julie LaVerne, in Showboat, wearing a purple velvet dress with matching hat. Then, in 1995, she played Queenie, the hardworking ship's cook, in the same show.

"It was about 10 years after I started I got involved with the costumes. And because I worked in tailoring I became wardrobe mistress," said Mrs Faulkner.

"My forte is men's clothing. I used to make my husband's suits and when we got married, for the wedding, I made both my mother and father's suits, my husband's and the two small bridesmaids' dresses. For the operatic society, we hire in costumes for the big shows but I worked with the costumier to make them fit. You can imagine, with people coming in all shapes and sizes, the costumes would need altering. I couldn't cut them because they had to go back."

"Whenever anybody asks what my favourite one to make has been I can't say because they have all been special and unique in their own way. I loved playing Julie in Showboat."Mrs Faulkner has also been chair of the society for around 28 years. It even became a family affair too her daughter, Kay Woodhouse, became secretary. Her two granddaughters are also both involved with Sally Gage, 36, becoming a choreographer and director, and Liz Compton, 32, a leading actress.

"Looking back over 50 years has brought some wonderful moments and lots of friends."

The group, formed in 1908 as Cradley Heath, Old Hill and District Amateur Operatic Society, changed its name in 1964 after moving to the Civic Hall in Brierley Hill. *Mrs Faulkner was interviewed and filmed for Chains, Dogs and CHAOS, a film by Multistory and Sarah Tibbetts in 2014. Multistory, is an arts organisation based in West Bromwich. For more information, visit www.multistory.org.uk

Hilda's favourite role – Showboat, 1979

Hilda caught the performing bug aged 14

YOUR CHOICE BATHROOMS

YOUR CHOICE... FOR A BETTER BATHROOM

" Our company is owned and run by local tradesmen meaning the work is carried out properly and on time. We strive to keep our prices as low as possible in order to keep within the budgets of retired, disabled and working families which make up 95% of our customers "

THE LOCAL SPECIALIST IN BATHROOM REFURBISHMENT

We want YOUR CHOICE to be us...

EXAMPLE FULL JOB FOR
£3850.00

• 90x90 Quadrant Cubicle with low level tray • 15 SQM Wall Tiles • Tiled Floor • Replacement Shower • New Basin & WC • All Rubbish Removed

WE OFFER A FREE NO OBLIGATION HOME VISIT & ON THE SPOT PRICE WITHIN 48 HRS OF YOUR CALL

THIS WEEKS
BATHROOM SPECIAL

Are you having problems getting in and out of your Bath? We will remove the Bath & Fit an easy access low level round, square or oblong cubicle and tiled inside. Supply a new replacement shower. A Folding Seat & Grab Rail.

ALL FOR ONLY
£2150.00

EXTRA DISCOUNT FOR OUR RETIRED & DISABLED CUSTOMERS

Unit 4, Charterfield Shopping Centre, Charterfield Drive, Kingswinford, DY6 7SH

TELEPHONE: 01384 287222

VISA MasterCard

Open 9am - 5pm 6 days a week

Showroom also at: Lichfield Road, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton, WV11 1TW. 01902 861908

VAT FREE IN QUALIFYING CASES

CLOSING DOWN SALE

FURNITURE BARN

SELLING QUALITY FURNITURE SINCE 1964

KIDDERMINSTER

£1 MILLION OF STOCK

NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED!

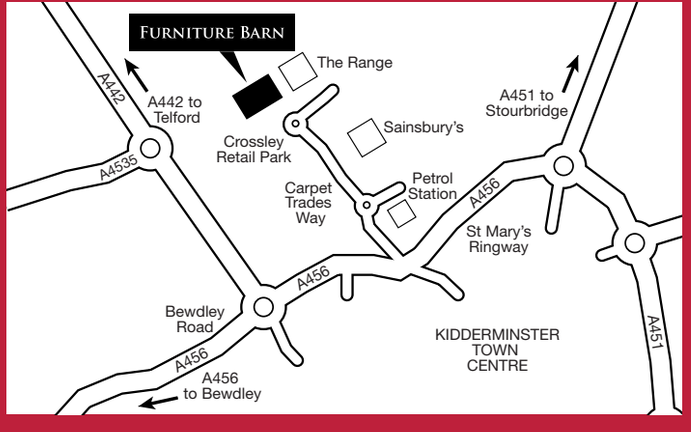
Kidderminster Store • Living Room • Dining Room • Bedroom

For example, these are one-off items which will be sold on a first come, first served basis:

	WAS	NOW
Chiltern Coffee Table	£445	£91
Charlotte Large TV Unit	£479	£74
Crystal Dining Chair	£138	£22
Large Upholstered Storage Stool	£285	£39
Broadwell Carver Chair	£269	£25
Danielle Small Fixed Top Stool	£455	£63
Duke Genoa White Shell Chair	£169	£19
Mist Oak Standard Bookcase	£599	£84
Bayonne Coffee Table Oak Finish	£419	£25
Bexley Sideboard	£799	£286

ENDS 4PM SUNDAY!

CROSSLEY RETAIL PARK,
CARPET TRADES WAY,
KIDDERMINSTER DY11 6DY
T: 01562 820 766
FURNITURE-BARN.CO.UK



WELCOME TO OUR 30-YEAR MILESTONE

WELCOME to this special supplement which gives you the chance to look back at 30 years of your weekly Chronicle.

For three decades we have brought you up to date with all the news and events in our district, covering Stourbridge town centre and the surrounding towns and villages, including Amblecote, Brierley Hill, Lye, Norton, Pedmore, Oldswinford, Wollescote, Wollaston, Wordsley, Quarry Bank, Hagley, Kinver, Kingswinford and Wall Heath.

If it's happened, it's been in, from the rise of the Merry Hill shopping centre, to the success of the town's vibrant music scene in the 1990s, the celebration of the area's glass making heritage, sporting success, and most importantly the stories about you – the people of Stourbridge.

And, with a current readership of more than 57,000 people, we endeavour to carry on this tradition. A host of changes are expected to take shape in future years on a local level and we will be here to share the news with you, be it good or bad.

This supplement takes readers back to all that has happened since the Chronicle first landed on your mat, recalls some of the big local and national stories that have made the headlines and the leading figures and businesses that have helped to shape the region, as well as predicting what the future may hold.

We hope you all enjoy this step back in time and we look forward to delivering the news to you in years to come.

ENVILLE
BREWERY
Brewers of Fine Cask Ales

Enville Ales Limited Hollies Lane, Cox Green, Stourbridge DY7 5LG Tel: 01384 873728 Fax: 01384 873770 Email: info@envilleales.com www.envilleales.com

YOUR CHRONICLE EDITORIAL TEAM

Our team brings the very best of news, sport and entertainment in your area to your door every week

How to get in touch with us

EDITORIAL:
Tel: 01384 353201/ 01384 353205
E-mail:
dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

SPORTS:
Tel: 01902 319453
E-mail:
chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk

PHOTOGRAPHIC:
Tel: 01902 319430
E-mail:
picturedesk@expressandstar.co.uk

ADVERTISING: Sue Jones
Tel: 01384 399901
E-mail:
sue.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

PROPERTY: Marguerita Finnegan
Tel: 01902 319627
E-mail:
marguerita.finnegan@expressandstar.co.uk

MOTORING: Liz Barratt
Tel: 01384 353244
E-mail:
liz.barratt@expressandstar.co.uk

CLASSIFIED:
Tel: 01902 317878
E-mail:
my-classified@expressandstar.co.uk

DISTRIBUTION: Paul Jones
Tel: 01902 319990
E-mail:
p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

CELEBRATE SUMMER WITH Panasonic ideas for life

TX-32DS500B
32" HD READY SMART LED TV
• Adaptive Backlight Dimming
• Freetime Catch Up TV
• Netflix and Amazon Video Streaming
ONLY £299.95

TX-40DS500B
40" FULL HD SMART LED TV
• Adaptive Backlight Dimming
• Freetime Catch Up TV
• Netflix and Amazon Video Streaming
ONLY £399.95

TX-40DX600B
40" 4K ULTRA HD, LED TV
• 4K Ultra HD TV with 4 Way Design Pedestal
• My Home Screen 2.0
• Quad Core Pro
• Web Browser powered by Firefox OS
• Internet Apps
ONLY £549.95

TX-49DS500B
49" FULL HD SMART LED TV
• Adaptive Backlight Dimming
• Freetime Catch Up TV
• Netflix and Amazon Video Streaming
ONLY £499.95

TX-50DX700B
50% 4K ULTRA HD, LED TV
• 4K Ultra HD
• 4K 1400 Hz BMR
• Freeview Play
WAS £999.95 SAVE £200
NOW £799.95
5 YEARS' GUARANTEE INCLUDED

TX-55DX600B
55" 4K ULTRA HD, LED TV
• 4K Ultra HD TV with 4 Way Design Pedestal
• My Home Screen 2.0
• Quad Core Pro
• Web Browser powered by Firefox OS
• Internet Apps
ONLY £899.95

TX-58DX750B
58" 4K ULTRA HD, LED TV
• 4K PRO Studio Master UHD
• Studio Master HCX
• Cinema Display
• HDR
• My Home Screen 2.0
WAS £1499.95 SAVE £200
NOW £1299.95
5 YEARS' GUARANTEE INCLUDED

TX-58DX902B
58" 4K UHD SMART LED TV
• 4K PRO Studio Master UHD
• Studio Master HCX+
• Professional Cinema Display
• HDR Premium
• THX Certified 4K Display
ONLY £2149.95
5 YEARS' GUARANTEE INCLUDED

GEOFF HILL LTD
www.geoffhillltd.co.uk
MORE GREAT DEALS AVAILABLE INSTORE
CLICK AND COLLECT TODAY!
NEW OPEN TIMES
MON-SAT 9 AM-5.30 PM | SUNDAYS 10.30 AM-4.30 PM
Tel: 01384 395852 or 01384 397271
7 High Street, Amblecote, Stourbridge, West Midlands DY8 4DE

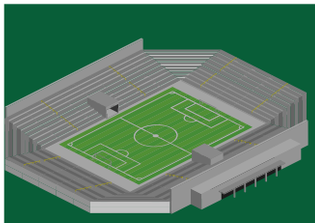
FACTS ABOUT YOUR LOCAL STOURBRIDGE CHRONICLE

32

There are an average **32 tradesmen** that can help with jobs in your home

80%

of households receive a FREE copy every week



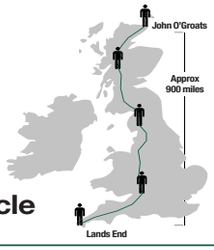
Our readers would fill The Hawthorns twice over every week

306

There are over **300 properties** per month showcased in the **Stourbridge Chronicle**

70 NEWS & SPORT STORIES a week are published in the Stourbridge Chronicle

We cover **26 SQ MILES PER WEEK** to deliver your Stourbridge Chronicle



1,969,800

copies published & read every year

Source: Copies - ABC | Readers - JICREG | News, Sport & Property - February 2016 | Tradesmen - Q1 2016 | GB TGI Q3 2015 | Experian

More local **news, sport** and **features** than any other newsbrand in the area

To advertise your business in the Stourbridge Chronicle please contact Susan on 01384 399901

STOURBRIDGE CHRONICLE

Support British Business

BATHROOM MAGIC

SALE PRICES

FITTED FURNITURE

SALE

ALL 5 MANUFACTURERS AT DISCOUNT PRICES...

We make bathrooms beautiful!

Opening Times: Monday-Friday 9am-5pm, Saturday 10am-4pm, Sunday CLOSED
UNIT 35, ENTERPRISE TRADING ESTATE, HURST LANE, BRIERLEY HILL. DY5 1TX
Tel: 01384 79300 www.bathroommagic.co.uk

VISA MasterCard VISA DEBIT Maestro

Find us on Facebook

Years of tears...

FROM environmental disasters to sporting heartache, the end of apartheid and start of the internet, a lot has happened since 1986.

In the year the Chronicles were launched, the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant exploded, Diego Maradona broke the hearts of England fans with his Hand Of God goal, and Steve Bull signed for Wolves.

And since then there have been many major events that have happened in the world.

To mark the 30th anniversary of the weekly titles Jamie Brassington looks at some of the world's standout events in that time.

Shockwaves were sent around the world in 1986 when the Chernobyl nuclear plant exploded in former Soviet Union. It was caused by an accident which saw a nuclear reactor explode, sending a radioactive cloud into the atmosphere which affected large parts of Europe.

A 30 kilometre exclusion zone was then set up around the site and patrolled by the Russian military. After three months 31 people had died and 237 suffered acute radiation sickness, most victims being fire and rescue workers.

Chernobyl nuclear power plant – the site of the world's worst nuclear accident

Hand of God: Diego Maradona, who broke the hearts of so many football fans

Many England fans will remember the World Cup of that year because of Diego Maradona's controversial Hand Of God goal. His handball goal was allowed to stand which helped Argentina beat Engand 2-1 in the quarter final before they went on to win the tournament.

But a footballing story was soon to start closer to home when Steve Bull signed for Wolves in the same year, going on to score 250 goals in 474 appearances for the club. In 1988 the tragedy of Pan Am Flight 103 took place, where terrorists detonated a bomb over Lockerbie, in Scotland, killing all 270 people on board.

Mandela

The next decade saw the beginning of the worldwide web, which was invented by British engineer Sir Timothy Berners-Lee in 1990. Nelson Mandela was also freed from Victor Verster Prison earlier that year after more than 27 years.

The first half of the decade saw political shifts in Europe. The Soviet Union was dissolved in 1991 and the European Union established in 1993. England and France were connected by rail in 1994 when the Channel tunnel opened in 1994 after seven years of construction. Nelson Mandela became the first black president of South Africa earlier that year, ending apartheid in the country.

Tragedy struck Dunblane Primary School in Scotland in 1996, when gunman Thomas Hamilton opened fired, killing 16 pupils and one teacher before he committed suicide.

Dolly the sheep became the first mammal to be cloned in July 1996 by British scientists at the University of Edinburgh.

The magic of JK Rowling's Harry Potter was unveiled to the public in July 1997 when her Philosopher's Stone book was published.

Princess Diana was killed in a car crash in the Pont de l'Alma road tunnel in Paris alongside Dodi Al-Fayed in August 1997.

In September 1997, Mother Theresa, a Roman Catholic nun, who dedicated her life to helping the poor and vulnerable around the world, died.

Google was set up in 1998, going on to be one of the most important tools of the early 21st century.

Thousands lined the streets and cried at the funeral procession for Princess Diana

COMMERCIAL FEATURE

Is your kitchen in need of TLC?

See the latest kitchen designs on display in this showroom at Cherry Kitchen Makeovers

The company has styles to suit every possible taste

The showroom is easy to find, located next to Aldi in Stourbridge, and is open every day

IF you love the idea of updating your kitchen but can't stand the thought of the mess and upheaval that ripping out your existing one would cause, then there is another solution to consider.

The Cherry Kitchen Makeover concept offers exactly what the name suggests – a huge range of replacement doors, drawer fronts, work tops and appliances to "cherry pick" from, using your existing cabinets to give your kitchen an exciting new look.

Cherry Kitchen Makeovers' ethos is based on its promise to customers that "Our doors are fitted to your original kitchen carcass with maximum speed and minimum hassle and this solution normally costs approximately half the price of a full replacement kitchen".

The idea of the designer cosmetic makeovers has grown dramatically since the popularity of TV shows like Changing Rooms, but Cherry Kitchen Makeovers offers much more than merely a door replacement service. "Everything is made to measure to our clients exact specifications," said MD Rob Hollick. "We work with our customers from the initial enquiry through to the end result – a complete transformation".

Matching panels, made to measure cornices, pelmets and fascias are all available to provide the finishing touches, while accessories including wine racks and glass cabinets can be made to match existing furnishings. Plus, everything comes with a comprehensive two year guarantee.

Cherry Kitchens also offer an exclusive range of made-to-measure glass splash backs plus the latest range of Samsung Quartz work surfaces and upstands. If you are looking for inspiration, Cherry Kitchens offers a showroom with a difference. The Midlands' largest kitchen makeover showroom, you'll find everything you could possibly imagine for the perfect makeover on display to feel, touch, match and select to ensure that personal finish for your own very special kitchen makeover.

Transformation

As well as a wide selection of doors and work surfaces on display, you can choose from new glass sinks, the latest taps, exclusive glass splash backs, a new designer range of handles and the latest top brand appliances. To complete your final kitchen transformation, see the latest range of luxury flooring from Polyflore and LG and the latest LED lighting options.

Based in Stourbridge just off the ring road, next to Aldi, the Cherry Kitchen showroom is open seven days a week (Sat/Sun 10am till 4pm) and parking is free. A free no obligation quotation service is available for you to discuss your design options and choose from an almost endless array of colour options and finishes in the comfort of your home.

Robert said: "Our experienced and professional surveyors will take measurements and assess exactly what is required. Obviously the condition of existing cabinets is checked, and any that need replacing can be changed and new cabinets added to expand the existing design.

"Once you decide to proceed, your kitchen is checked again by a technical surveyor to ensure all aspects of the new makeover are correct. Your kitchen transformation is then carried out normally within two to three weeks and the work is completed within two to three working days, with the minimum of fuss and disruption. You can revitalise your kitchen from a simple door change to a complete makeover, and all rubbish is taken away by the company. If you want to see what their customers think, visit Yell.com and check out the verified five star reviews.

You shouldn't gamble on a company you don't know and Cherry Kitchen Makeover's customers have total peace of mind, knowing that their deposit and guarantee is fully protected by the Consumer Protection Association. Cherry Kitchens Makeovers is a preferred trader within their organisation and has been a member for many years.

With so many designs and colours, and an inclusive price range, The Cherry Kitchen Makeover option really does provide something for everyone and viewing of their new showroom is a must.

For more information or a free colour 36 page brochure call 01384 395799 or visit their website www.cherry-kitchens.co.uk

and cheers

THE Euro currency was launched by the Eurozone on New Year's Day in 1999 to the world's financial markets.

And in the Black Country, Wolverhampton gained city status in 2000.

Al-Qaeda terrorists attacked America in what became known as 9/11 in 2001, killing 2,996 people and injuring more than 6,000, which sparked a 13-year war in Afghanistan.

Britain marked the death of Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother in 2002. The funeral was held at Westminster Abbey.

The Iraq War began in 2003 following an invasion by the US and its allies, which ended in 2009. And Facebook was invented by Mark Zuckerberg in 2004. It now has 1.59 billion users.

Search

The 7/7 bombings took place in London in July 2005. Carried out by terrorists, it killed 52 people and injured more than 700 on the London Underground and on a bus.

A worldwide search was prompted in 2007 after Madeleine McCann disappeared while on holiday with her family in Portugal.

Barack Obama was elected as the first black president of the United States in 2009, before going on to two terms in the office.

Music icon Michael Jackson died in June 2009 which prompted a global mourning from fans.

Usain Bolt set a new World Record in the Men's 100 metre sprint in August 2009 with a time of 9.58 seconds at the Berlin World Championships.

And Prince William tied the knot with Kate Middleton at Westminster Abbey in April 2011.

London hosted the Olympics in 2012 which saw Great Britain come third with a medal haul of 65. That year the Queen also celebrated her Diamond Jubilee.

The EU was also in the news back then, and that Royal kiss on the balcony as thousands

Coming right up to date, this year Leicester City pulled off one of the greatest achievements in British sporting history winning the Premier League, after going from 5000/1 outsiders at the start of the season.

Club striker Jamie Vardy also broke the Premier League record for scoring in the most consecutive games that season, where he scored in 11 in a row.

Sealed with a kiss – after Prince William and Kate Middleton tied the knot

Celebrating with his famous gesture – Usain Bolt set a new world record in the men's 100 metre sprint in August 2009 with a time of 9.58 seconds

Brierley Hill **Bathrooms**

Bathrooms Fully Fitted

from **£2,950** inc. VAT

Special help for the disabled and elderly
Baths removed and shower cubicle, seat, shower and tiles installed
from **£1,950**

• Large Showroom • Helpful Staff • Free Survey

01384 484088

10/11 Garratt Street, Brierley Hill DY5 1JU

www.brierleyhillbaths.co.uk

Cherry® Kitchen Makeovers

Yell™ ★★★★★ 5 STAR RATED
See our reviews on Yell.com

the Ultimate **KITCHEN MAKEOVER**
The most cost effective way to **transform your kitchen**
...without the hassle of a traditional rip-out and re-fit!

LESS MESS
LESS FUSS
HALF THE PRICE
of a new kitchen

Why choose **CHERRY?**

- Avoid the upheaval and expense of replacing your cabinets
- Revitalise your kitchen from a simple door change to a complete makeover
- Huge choice of worktops from Laminate to Granite and Quartz
- Retain your existing cabinets - avoid waste, save money and help the environment
- Average installation time only 2 to 3 days - less mess, less fuss, half the cost!
- Your local kitchen makeover specialist - Approved by the Consumer Protection Association for your total peace of mind
- Range of quality luxury flooring available
- Full replacement kitchen service also available
- Rubbish removed from site

OPEN 7 DAYS

VISIT THE MIDLANDS' **LARGEST KITCHEN MAKEOVER** *Showroom*

FREE PARKING!

ON STOURBRIDGE RING ROAD (next to Aldi)

SEE OUR RANGE OF
LUXURY FLOORING
the finishing touch!

Call now for your **FREE** 36-page colour brochure or **FREE** no-obligation survey & quotation on -

01384 395 799
0800 633 5337

Don't gamble on any company you don't know. Always select a CPA member for your complete peace of mind.

See our latest video online at
www.cherry-kitchens.co.uk

GASWAY Ltd.
Est 1976

safe

Open since 1976 Gasway has been your first choice for Gas Fires, Surrounds, Cookers and much more, all at competitive prices.

Why not visit Dave, Jon and the team today for FREE expert advice and quotes.

- Cookers Supplied and Fitted
- Gas Fires and Fire Surrounds
- Electric Fires and Fire suites
- Servicing Spare Parts
- Central Heating Systems Supplied and Fitted
- Fire Guards / Companion Sets
- All at competitive Prices

- ▶ Free standing gas stoves
- ▶ Natural gas or lpg
- ▶ Can be fitted into class 1, class 2 and pre cast flues
- ▶ Flue and venting options
- ▶ Manual control with integral ignition
- ▶ Log fuel bed
- ▶ Up to 78% efficient
- ▶ 3.6k output

*For complete peace of mind and a friendly service, why not visit Gasway in **Lower High Street, Stourbridge DY8 1TA. 01384 372246***

unit 3 sixty
skate park
est.2014

SKATE, SCOOT AND RIDE
ALL ABILITIES WELCOME
SKATEPARK, SHOP AND CAFE
OPEN EVERYDAY UNTIL 10PM

MILLRACE LANE, STOURBRIDGE, DY8 1JN WWW.UNIT3SIXTY.COM TEL: 01384 376728

Historic town that has always been glass act

FROM disappearing cats, to a 300-year-old drinking ban and the birth of indie pop bands.

Stourbridge has seen a variety of events happen in the town over the last 30 years.

It is an historic town owing its name to an ancient bridge over the River Stour.

Stourbridge is famous for its glass industry, made during the industrial revolution, which still proves a popular attraction today with the Red House Glass Cone museum.

The town is also well-known for making the first train to run in the US, which was the Stourbridge Lion locomotive in 1829. However, as we are only looking back at the past 30 years, we can't delve into that too much.

When the Stourbridge Chronicle was first launched, the town was giving birth to pop bands on the indie music scene.

Homecoming

Pop Will Eat Itself formed in 1986 and went on to achieve Top 40 hits with Can U Dig It? and Wise Up! Sucker. And Ned's Atomic Dustbin formed in 1987, achieving fourth in the UK top 40 albums chart in 1991 for their album 'God Fodder'.

Rock legend Robert Plant, lead singer and lyricist for Led Zeppelin, used to go to school in Stourbridge and returned for a homecoming gig in the town hall in 1987.

The town hall hosts the Stourbridge Beer Festival annually which has become a key date in the town's calendar.

The first one was set up in 1997 and used to take place during February at a time before any coolers were used to keep the beers cold.

Organiser John Midwood said: "The festival has certainly got more popular over the years. We used to start with about 40 beers and now we have gone up to around 90 beers, which is about the maximum number we will get due to regulations.

"Beers were never cooled in the old days. They were served at room temperature, but that was when the festival was held in February, people would come in big warm coats!" he added

"When we moved the festival to warmer months, obviously the beer got warmer so we introduced cooling pipes. People started to ask about ciders so now we feature them."

Still proving popular – the Red House Glass Cone museum

Rock legend Robert Plant went to school in Stourbridge

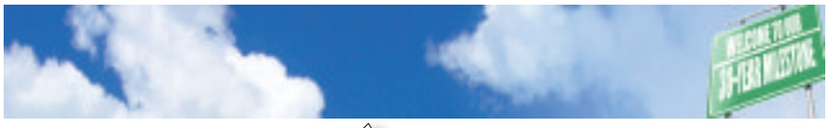
The murder of Stourbridge schoolboy Carl Bridgewater, aged 13, shocked the nation, after he was shot dead at point blank range whilst on his newspaper round in 1978.

Three men, originally been jailed over Carl's killing a year later – James Robinson and cousins Vincent and Michael Hickey, walked free in 1997 after their convictions were overturned by the Court of Appeal. The court ruled the trial the men had at Stafford Crown Court was not fair.

The murder remains unresolved. There have been recent calls for the case to be re-opened.

The murder of Carl Bridgewater shocked the nation

Ned's Atomic Dustbin album 'God Fodder' reached No 4 in the UK top 40 albums chart in 1991



EYESORE CAR PARK DROPS IN SECONDS

Crown Centre demolition begins

TORCH BEARERS FOR BOROUGH

Back in the days when the skyline changed forever

STOURBRIDGE saw its skyline change in 2012 when a multi-storey car park in the town centre was demolished to make way for a new £50 million shopping centre.

The neighbouring Crown Centre was also demolished to make way for the complex.

The demolition heralded a milestone in the multi-million-pound regeneration project. It has since been replaced by a Tesco superstore which opened in October 2013, and features an underground car park.

A few miles up the road, the Merry Hill shopping centre opened in Brierley Hill back in 1985. It was built on the old Round Oak Steelworks site and has since become the major shopping destination for people in the Black Country and wider region.

Missing

Merry Hill's arrival symbolised Dudley moving away from its industrial past. When plans were announced to build the shopping centre they were met with opposition, but those days seem like a bygone era, as it is now a bustling hub for shoppers.

Merry Hill was the £1 billion brainchild of millionaire developers and twin brothers Roy and Don Richardson.

Wollaston in Stourbridge was nicknamed the 'Purr-muda Triangle' in 2008 after nearly 50 cats went missing from its streets. It was reported that year that no bodies had been discovered, but several collars found.

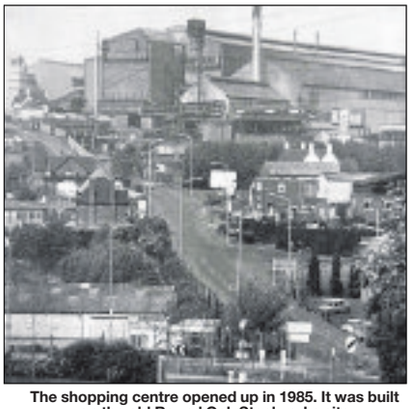
Multi-storey car park in the town centre was demolished to make way for a new £50 million shopping centre

The nickname came from the 'Bermuda Triangle', an area of the North Atlantic Ocean where ships and planes have gone missing. The street that saw the most disappearances was Meriden Avenue, where 19 homes reported to have lost their pets over a five-year period.

With disappearances comes new appearances, and this was in the form of pubgoers who could enjoy a Sunday drink at an Enville pub for the first time in three centuries. In 2004 a 300-year ban which meant it had to close on Sundays was lifted at The Cat Inn.

It was originally brought in by the then lady of the manor in Enville, after she had apparently seen farm labourers urinating in the street outside the pub whilst drunken. But the new owners of the pub, at the time,

Merry Hill Centre's arrival symbolised a move away from the area's industrial past



The shopping centre opened up in 1985. It was built on the old Round Oak Steelworks site

SUMMER SALE NOW ON

Save £££s on your new bed

☑ Traditional Pocket Sprung ☑ Memory Beds
☑ TV Beds ☑ Adjustable Beds ☑ Water Beds

T & Cs apply see instore for details

Dreameasybeds Tellybeds
Silver End, Brettell Lane, Brierley Hill, DY5 3JL 01384 483322
Open Mon to Sat 9.30am - 5pm, Free Parking www.tellybeds.co.uk

Kitchens to suit all budgets

A beautiful range of kitchens from modern style with Corian worktops and moulded sinks, to more traditional styles with granite worktops and Belfast sinks

Over 30 years of experience in the design and installation of quality kitchen furniture

Also available: replacement doors, worktops, sinks and appliances

FITTED KITCHEN SPECIALISTS
VISIT OUR SHOWROOM WE HAVE 12 STYLES OF KITCHENS ON DISPLAY
155 Bridgnorth Road, Wollaston, Stourbridge
01384 443432
www.ajldesign.co.uk
AJL DESIGN

Town on track for big changes

Hope of more revamps for the town, including Crystal Leisure Centre

A new glass museum is set to open in Wordsley this summer accompanying the Red House Glass Cone

WHAT does the future of Stourbridge hold? With a new museum opening, the revamp of the Crown Centre having taken place and a new direct rail link planned for the town, it certainly looks bright.

And Dudley Council has said the town will be 'vibrant and inclusive' by 2026 after publishing a plan of action for the town.

A new glass museum is set to open in Wordsley this summer accompanying the Red House Glass Cone. The £5.5 million White House Cone Museum of Glass will promote the history of the glass-making industry.

Work to finish the project is nearing completion and the famous Stourbridge Glass Collection will be moved to the new centre.

The Stourbridge Area Action Plan will see the arts and creative industries supported in the town, and 'sustainable urban living' be embraced. It will also see new shops, offices and homes along with improvements to transport routes.

The town, situated on the south western tip of the Black Country, is home to one of the smallest public trains in the country.

However, new transport plans could see a direct train service to Walsall set up. The idea was revealed by transport chiefs last year as part of £6.5 billion plans for the West Midlands.

Councillor Nicolas Barlow, for Wollaston and Stourbridge Town, said: "The service we have at the moment is a 'very light railway', but it would be nice to have a proper one that could take people from this side of the Black Country to the next."

Expansion

The arrival of the new Tesco superstore in the Crown Centre brought a fresh look to Stourbridge town centre. The shop, alongside a car park and other commercial spaces, part of a £50 million shopping centre, was created when the multi-storey car park was torn down in 2012.

Councillor Barlow hoped more revamps could come to the town, including Crystal Leisure Centre. He said: "Crystal Leisure Centre was built in the 1980s but the building looks more dated now. It would be great to get more investment."

Merry Hill shopping centre, in Brierley Hill, is set to see expansions and a revamp. Office blocks along the Waterfront in Merry Hill are also set to be transformed into homes.

And measures to make the ring road feel less enclosed were drawn up as part of the Stourbridge Area Action Plan.

New transport plans could see a direct train service to Walsall being set up

The arrival of the new Tesco superstore in the Crown Centre brought a fresh look to the town centre

The Greenhouse Florist & Flossie's Bakehouse

Beautiful flowers and delicious cakes for weddings, celebrations, birthdays and all occasions

Stourbridge Carnival, Sunday 3rd July
Visit us at our shop selling beautiful cupcakes, fudge and treats

127 High Street, Stourbridge DY8 1DT
01384 443556
enquiries@thegreenhouse-florist.com
www.thegreenhouse-florist.com

CASH Hawthorne & Walker CARRY

Small Whole Fresh Boneless Sirloins ~~Was £6.99lb~~ Now £6.49lb	Whole Fresh Ribeyes ~~Was £6.99lb~~ Now £6.49lb	Whole Fresh Beef Fillets £7.98lb Take 2 £6.98lb	Whole Fresh Boneless Rumps of Beef £4.99lb	Whole Black Angus Salmon Cuts of Beef Approx 6lb £3.50lb Take 2 £2.99lb	Whole Fresh Spring Lamb Legs £3.39lb	Boneless Turkey Crowns Wrapped in Bacon with roast bag £2.79lb
Whole Boneless Danish Crown Gammons ~~Was £2.28lb~~ Now £1.89lb	Whole Boneless Pork Loins R/on or R/off ~~Was £1.99lb~~ Now £1.89lb	Whole Boneless Black Angus Beef Roasts Grain Fed £2.89lb Approx 12 to 14lb	11lb Fresh Chicken Fillets (Additive Free) £22 per Tray Take 2 £20.00 per tray	Fresh Spring Lamb Leg Chops £3.99lb	2 Fresh Spring Lamb Shanks £6.98 for 2	Fresh Boneless Spring Lamb Legs £3.99lb

SUMMER FISH SPECIALS
Handmade Luxury Fish Pies £3.99 each
Luxury Salmon Wellingtons 2 per box £3.99 per box
Boneless, Skinless Cod Fillets £2.99lb
2 Salmon Fillets in Ginger, Chilli and Lime Marinade £3.65 per pack

FREEZER PACK £69.00!
2 BEEF JOINTS, 2 LAMB JOINTS, 2 PORK JOINTS, 2LB BEST PORK SAUSAGES, RUMP STEAKS, 2LB HOME CURED BACON, LAMB CHOPS, PORK STEAKS

Homemade Pork Sausage- minimum Pork content 70%
Pork & Red Onion Sausage • Tomato Sausage
(Fresh Red Onion, Tomatoes, No Flavouring)
Pork & Black Pudding

5lb Packs of Locally Cured Short Back Bacon
Was £8.99 per Pack NOW £7.95 PER PACK
Smoked NOW £8.95 PER PACK

10 Loin Lamb Chops £7.99
10 Pork Loin Steaks £7.99
10 Sirloin Steaks £17.99
10 Ribeye Steaks £17.99

Email us on: hawthorneandwalker@gmail.com
01384 633648 (24 hr answer phone) or 01384 353550
Opening times: Mon: 9am-1pmTues: 8am-5pm, Wed & Sat: 8am-1pm, Thurs & Fri: 8am-5.30pm
TRADE ENQUIRIES WELCOME
172-6 HIGH STREET, QUARRY BANK
FREE HOME DELIVERY ON ORDERS OVER £50
ALL SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY
Most Credit Cards taken - Visa, Mastercard, etc

ORIEL

CONGRATULATIONS
CELEBRATING
30 YEARS IN CARE

RESIDENTIAL CARE HOME

CELEBRATE WITH US AT OUR SUMMER FETE
SAT JULY 9TH
10.30-12.30 am

87, HAGLEY RD, OLDSWINFORD, STOURBRIDGE, W.MIDLANDS DY8 1QY
T: 01384 375867 F: 01384 443597 E:oriel.care@btconnect.com www.orielcare.co.uk

ALLENBROOK NURSING HOME
Celebrates over 30 years in care
JOIN US AT OUR SUMMER FETE
Saturday August 6th 2.00- 4.00pm
209, Spies Lane, Halesowen,
West Midlands B62 9SJ
T: 0121 422 5844 F: 0121 423 4584
E: allenbrook@btconnect.com
www.allenbrooknursinghome.co.uk

THE VICARAGE NURSING HOME
Celebrates 18years in care
The Common, Bayston Hill,
Shrewsbury SY3 0EA
T: 01743 874030 F: 01743 871095
E: vicaragenursinghome@tiscali.co.uk
www.vicaragenursing.co.uk

SHRUBBERY NURSING HOME
Celebrates over 10years in care
JOIN US AT OUR SUMMER FETE
Saturday July 16th 1.00-4.30 pm
Birmingham Rd, Kidderminster,
Worcestershire DY10 2JZ
T: 01562 822787 F: 01562 68122
E: info@shrubberynursing.co.uk
www.shrubberynursing.co.uk

Cadmore Lodge
Offers luxury retirement living, short breaks,
respite care and coming soon
24hr nursing and palliative care
St. Michaels, Tenbury Wells
Worcestershire WR15 8TQ
T: 01584 810044
E:info@cadmorelodge.co.uk
www.cadmorelodge.co.uk

The Ephraims Care Group

When curves were given the boot

The curves of Linda Evangelista were replaced by the lean look of Kate Moss

AS things have been since time immemorial, the fashion trends that have emerged, disappeared and re-emerged over the last three decades have been heavily dictated by music, culture and subculture.

When people ran to pick up their copy of the Chronicle from the doormat in the 80s, they did so in the kind of bright and sharp heels that Madonna might wear.

Or in huge-tongued, hip hop-influenced trainers. In the days before yellow smiley faces were sent via WhatsApp, they were plastered on the front of T-shirts, clashing with some of the brightest and loudest wind breakers and shell suits the world has ever seen.

Off-shoulder chunky jumpers in wild, neon geometric patterns led the mainstream, while the post-punk underworld brought forth grunge rock, and a more muted colour palette. As synthesisers began to give way to guitars, the world began to change, not only what it was listening to, but what it wore.

By the time we arrived headfirst into the 90s, we were more inclined to slip on a pair of Converse baseball boots than a pair of neon-pointed pumps. The healthy-looking curves of models like Linda Evangelista and Christy Turlington were replaced by the 'heroin chic' slender, boyish forms of models like Kate Moss and Jaime King. Suddenly, the gaunt look was in and it wasn't just the models getting thinner. Everything else lost volume too, backcombing was out and hair irons were in.

Kirsty Bosley takes us through the fashion years – good and bad

Dominate

Flouncy, playful blouses were packed off to the charity shop, and more slender lines became a fashion standard. Throughout this time, sportswear continued to dominate the wardrobes of men everywhere, with brands like Kappa and Ellesse joining Adidas and Reebok in the cool stakes.

As the 90s progressed, bands like Slipknot and Korn influenced the 'alternative' community. Baggy jeans with chains and all black clothing brought back that 80s goth vibe. But pop music made the most memorable impact. Boy band members made curtains and highlights cool, and check shirts and denim jackets remained a bloke staple. One of the most influential acts of the 90s was The Spice Girls, and for females, the rise of Girl Power dictated the next few years of fashion. Sky-scraping platforms were a must.

The Spice Girls summed up some of the bizarre 'fashions'

Jelly shoes had their moment in the sun, as did chokers, Grolsch bottle tops and very distressed jeans. In the noughties, low-slung cargo pants with pointless ribbons, belly-flashing skinny vests and gypsy skirts came to the fore, as did wearing ties on top of, well, anything. In the 2010s, Chinos became cool, jeans got much skinnier and, sadly, no massive fashion-forward steps were taken. It was a bad year for fashion.

These days, what we wear is a rotation of things from before, a revival of 70s-style flares and high-waisted mum jeans, floral prints, rich browns and moccasins. Let's hope shell suits stay firmly locked away in the retro closet!

CareCo
the discount mobility experts

Visit Our
Newly Refurbished
Showroom!

FROM £399

FROM £399

FROM £74.99

Your Local Showroom
Unit 25, Pedmore Road Ind. Estate, Pedmore Road, Brierley Hill, West Midlands DY5 1TJ
01384 489 119

CareCo
the discount mobility experts

Mon - Sat: 9am to 5pm
Sun: 10am to 4pm

£50 OFF
To redeem, simply bring this advert in to the Showroom and spend over £500 in one transaction.
Expires: July 31st 2016

UK's Lowest Prices!
✓ Try before you buy.
✓ Disabled Toilet.
✓ Free Parking.

Expert Mobility Advisors
UK Manufactured Products
PREMIUM All The Best Brands Stocked
OPEN Open 7 Days A Week

01384 489 119 www.careco.co.uk

Mobiles just got smaller . . .

Even actor Michael Douglas had, what was referred to as, a 'brick'

Most mobile phones now will fit in the palm of your hand

IF there is one item that has arguably changed our lives more than any other in the last few decades, it is the mobile phone.

And since they came on the scene in 1973, they have gone through big transformations.

It wasn't until the 80s and 90s that they became more common, but if you were to place a handset of today alongside one from 30 years ago, there would be a major difference. A phone in the 1980s would have an antenna and maybe need two hands to hold.

Internet

Today there would be no antenna, the phone would fit in the palm of your hand, and it would have a touch screen. Plus you would also have the latest technology – apps, maps, GPS, on-the-move internet and a multi-mega-pixel camera.

With the marvel of being able to speak and communicate on the move 24/7, there is the internet, allowing people to communicate all over the world in seconds.

Although the worldwide-web was born in 1991, it has taken more than a decade for it to take over everyday life. Now it is a vital tool to everyday living.

. . . but prices bigger

1986		2016
33p	Large loaf of bread	85p
72p	Dozen eggs	£1.25
23p	Pint of milk	45p
£1.20	100g of coffee	£1.75
£1.25	80 tea bags	£1.40
17p	First class postage	64p
£2.04	Gallon petrol	£4.99
75p	Pint of beer	£3.45
£1.35	20 cigarettes	£9.60

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Dreamland

40 YEAR Anniversary Celebration SALE

The family business was founded in 1976 by Mike Brown, who is such a familiar face in the Local Community that he is known as "Mike the Bed". The team of experienced staff is headed by manageress Carol Stock, who has been part of the Dreamland family since the beginning.

Dreamland has been helping people across the Midlands to get a good night's sleep for "40" years and to celebrate the anniversary, will be giving extra discounts on all beds to say thank you to customers for their support over the years.

Located in Mill Street, Brierley Hill - just a few minutes walk from the Merry Hill Centre - you'll find friendly and knowledgeable staff, all of whom understand the importance of getting the right bed for you. You'll receive impartial advice and a tailor-made solution to meet your needs from the firmer to softer beds upon which to rest your head.

The impressive range of beds includes memory foam and orthopaedic mattresses, beds with storage, pine and metal frames and beds especially for children. This is backed up by a large warehouse containing hundreds of beds and mattresses, meaning that your chosen product can be delivered as swiftly as required. Everything possible is done to make customers' lives easier, for instance, there's plenty of room to park at the rear of the store and Dreamland delivers all over the West Midlands.

Public demand for Dreamland's superlative customer service and premium products has seen the business expand four times in as many decades. Now, with the most extensive range they've ever had, means all styles and budgets are catered for; it's no surprise that there have been thousands of satisfied customers. Founded by Mike Brown, Dreamland is a family business that is proud to serve the Black Country and the wider Midlands region. Mike says: "We're very excited to have reached this milestone of 40 years and we're looking forward to continuing to serve our customers, old and new, for the next 40 and beyond.

We spend a third of our lives asleep, so there can be no better investment than a quality hand-made mattress and bed.

We pride ourselves on supplying only the best quality and we know that each handmade bed we sell provides pressure relief, comfort and support exactly where your body needs it."

Dreamland has come a long way since it first opened its doors in Mill Street, Brierley Hill, in the spring of 1976 with just 12 beds on show, it has now become renowned for quality and service. Dreamland stocks only manufacturers that are approved by the National Bed Federation and offers premium handmade beds, with mattresses filled with natural fillings such as wool, cashmere, alpaca and silk, help to regulate your body temperature. But, whatever you choose, you'll be delighted at Dreamland's very competitive prices.

There are more than 100 bed models in stock at Dreamland, including Somnos, Relyon, Dunlopillo and Hypnos and you'll also find other leading brands such as Sealy, Myers, Silent Night, Mammoth and electric bed specialists Mi beds.

Instead of a delivery charge, customers are asked to make a donation, all of which goes to charity. Over the past few years, it has raised more than £125,000 for the Mary Stevens Hospice, thanks to the generosity of customers who give in lieu of delivery charge.

Dreamland will even collect your old bed and assemble your divan, more reasons why you'll sleep soundly in your new bed!

Dreamland

40 Year Celebration Sale

Fantastic offers... from our leading Bed Manufacturers

MEGA DEALS ON

Divan Beds, Mattresses, Wood and Metal Bedsteads, Fashion Beds, Sofa Beds, Adjustable Beds, Headboards and Children's Beds throughout the store

Find us at: Mill Street, Brierley Hill 01384 74166

OPEN Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm Sat 9am-5.30pm Sun 11am-4.30pm

3 FLOORS OF FAMOUS NAMES GUARANTEED BEST PRICES

nbf APPROVED

LARGE FREE CAR PARK AT REAR OF STORE Little Cottage St, DY5 1RG

Suporters of Mary Stevens Hospice

And just for the record

MUSIC in the 1980s saw new sounds enter the charts.

As rock continued to enjoy a wide audience, new genres, such as dance music and new wave, arrived on the scene.

Disco fell out of fashion in the decade's early years but Euro disco and dance-pop were to become more popular.

But in the Black Country, rock was still dominant. The region played an important role in seeing bands become successful.

Former nightclub and live music venue JB's, in Dudley, had local bands and acts from further afield play there.

As Jonn Penney, lead singer of Ned's Automic Dustbin, put it, if you won the crowd over at the club, you were onto a winner. The likes of Blur, Joy Division, UB40, The Police, The Pretenders and the Manic Street Preachers performed at the venue.

The Sex Pistols played there under the name The Spots following a ban by Wolverhampton Council.

Queen also wanted to play there but asked too much money to perform.

Ned's Automic Dustbin, formed in Stourbridge in 1987, was among the Black Country bands branching out into indie rock which became popular in the UK and US in the 1980s.

"Indie was short for independent, which meant people doing their own thing," said Jonn.

"Indie music was everyone who was not on a major record label."

Other indie bands from the area were Pop Will Eat Itself and The Wonder Stuff, both formed in Stourbridge in 1986.

In April 1991 Jonn's band released its album 'God Fodder', which reached number four in the UK Top 40 albums chart.

"Rock music in the area has always been a love of no-nonsense music.

"I guess Slade started the trend, the 'get on with it no-nonsense' music. There was no posing, it was all about letting the art do the talking.

"They took the Black Country to the corners of the planet which no-one else had done.

"Robert Plant also took Wolverhampton to places in the world where no-one knew of the city."

The Sex Pistols played at JB's under the name The Spots following a ban by Wolverhampton Council

Jonn Penney – glad to see vinyl back

JONN PENNEY:
Lead singer of Ned's Atomic Dustbin

As promotions officer for the Wolverhampton Civic halls Jonn has experience of many music genres. He says tastes in music have changed over the past three decades and rock may not be as pivotal in the Black Country as 30 years ago.

But he added: "Rock in the Black Country is never going to die. And Black Country rock fans are the most loyal of the loyal."

And he is glad to see the surprise return of vinyl with youngsters of today.

"Kids today are different to kids in my age," said Jonn. "They don't go out as much and are exposed to fair less culture and art.

"It's a completely different culture but that is not knocking them. Rock music is so much rooted in live performance.

"I would have never imagined today kids would appreciate a piece with artwork (vinyl) – it's great to see."

Mike Hamblett – so many changes

MIKE HAMBLETT:
Owner of the Robin 2 in Bilston

"The live music venues in the Black Country and Birmingham have changed over the years," says Mike. "What used to be a pub venue would now be The Institute in Birmingham.

"And places like Club Lafayette, Wolverhampton and JB's Dudley are no longer with us."

But one name still going strong is the Robin 2, in Bilston. Mike opened the live music venue alongside the original Robin, which he opened in 1992 in Dudley before it was demolished in 2003.

Acts that have played at The Robin 2 recently include American female soul group The Three Degrees and Snakecharmer – made up of two original Whitesnake members.

Mike says: "There only used to be The Robin, JB's in Dudley and a couple in Birmingham, Club Lafayette, The Coach & Horses pub in Hateley Heath, the Barrel Organ in Digbeth and the Railway in Curzon Street, Birmingham.

"Now there are lots."

TOP TEN HITS

30 YEARS AGO (July 1, 1986)

1. Wham! – The Edge Of Heaven
2. Madonna – Papa Don't Preach
3. The Housemartins – Happy Hour
4. Owen Paul – My Favourite Waste Of Time
5. Nu Shooz – I Can't Wait
6. Amazulu – Too Good To Be Forgotten
7. A-Ha – Hunting High And Low
8. Bucks Fizz – New Beginning (Mamba Seyra)
9. Bananarama – Venus
10. Doctor And The Medics – Spirit In The Sky

20 YEARS AGO (July 1, 1996)

1. Baddiel/Skinner/Lightning Seeds – Three Lions
2. Fugees – Killing Me Softly
3. Peter Andre ft Bubbler Ranx – Mysterious Girl
4. Kula Shaker – Tattva
5. Celine Dion – Because You Loved Me
6. Ash – Oh Yeah
7. Reel 2 Real – Jazz It Up
8. Livin' Joy – Don't Stop Movin'
9. Alison Limerick – Where Love Lives
10. Mariah Carey – Always Be My Baby

10 YEARS AGO (July 1, 2006)

1. Nelly Furtado – Maneater
2. Shakira ft Wyclef Jean – Hips Don't Lie
3. Sandi Thom – I Wish I Was a Punk Rocker
4. Muse – Supermassive Black Hole
5. The Automatic – Monster
6. Sergio Mendes/Black Eyed Peas – Mas Que Nada
7. Infernal – From Paris To Berlin
8. Lostprophets – Rooftops (A Liberation Broadcast)

50% OFF
SECOND PAIR OF PRESCRIPTION
SUNGLASSES OR GLASSES

*Terms and conditions apply

Book an appointment!

01384 394 300
84 High Street, Stourbridge DY8 1ED

Essilor
Transitions ADAPTIVE LENSES

Includes:

Ray-Ban | TED BAKER LONDON | Calvin Klein collection and more!

DOCKER & WILSON
dockerandwilson.co.uk

Spacious, luxury four-bedroom detached was a show home

PEDMORE
£395,000 <<<

A beautifully presented and spacious four-bedroomed detached residence, 12 Meon Rise, Pedmore, Stourbridge is the former show home to a modern, landmark development and has luxury specification.

Having a stunning kitchen/ breakfast room, a large family lounge and dining room, a laundry, two en-suites and a private rear garden, it is for sale through The Lee Shaw Partnership at £395,000.

Stourbridge Junction station is only a short walk from the property.

Each room offers individual, stylish décor. The property has double glazing and gas central heating with dual zone control. The first floor has four bedrooms.

The landscaped rear garden has a paved patio and circular seating area, lawn and well-stocked borders and a gated side access. There is a front driveway for two vehicles.

This charming home comes with a sun room

DUDLEY
£159,950

An absolute gem of a property in St Marks Road, Dudley, has "oodles of delights", including beautiful feature coloured windows and a gorgeous sun room.

With driveway parking, it is for sale through The Property Shop at £159,950.

The porch opens into the inviting and spacious entrance hallway with doors opening to a lounge with a bay window and dining room (currently one room but easily made back into two if required), an extended kitchen with a feature 'porthole' window, a relaxing sun room with Velux window leading out onto the low maintenance rear garden. This has paved patio areas, lawns and a workshop and shed. There are three good sized bedrooms and a luxury shower room. Contact The Property Shop on 01384 456 022 or visit www.thepropertyshop.co.uk

If you would like an older relative to live a little closer, then a retirement apartment from McCarthy & Stone could be the perfect solution.

With our Part Exchange* service, we can provide a quick and easy, guaranteed sale for their home which means they may be able to move sooner than they think.

McCarthy & Stone
The UK's leading retirement housebuilder

SANDERSON COURT
Park Road, Hagley DY9 0AP
1, 2 and 3 bedroom luxury age exclusive apartments for sale from £225,950 to £425,950.

LOWESTONE COURT
Stone Lane, Kinver DY7 6EX
1 and 2 bedroom luxury age exclusive apartments for sale from £190,000 to £285,000.

Please call us on **0800 810 0020** for more details or visit **mccarthyandstone.co.uk**

*Ts&Cs apply. Agreement is subject to survey, contract and the terms and conditions of the Part Exchange company. Part Exchange is capped at £450,000 for your property; any amount over this limit is subject to negotiation. Not available in conjunction with any other offer or promotion. Offer may be withdrawn at any time. Written details available on request. Visit mccarthyandstone.co.uk/offers for more details.

LP-MW-STH-AR-ZZZZ-ZZ

Goodbye to year 6

Ashwood Park Primary School

Wishing all our Year 6 pupils the very best as they move up to their Secondary Schools in September.

You have been a wonderful year group and we know you will keep working hard and enjoying your learning.

EngAging, Exciting Curriculum!
Irresistible learning!
Happy children!
HardWorking, committed staff!
Off to a flying start!
WOnderful learning experiences!
OfsteD rating Good!

HapPy enthusiastic learners!
HeAlthy eating!
WRap Around care!
Exciting Enjoyable WorK!

Ashwood Park Primary School, Bells Lane, Stourbridge, West Midlands, DY8 5DJ 01384 818545 | www.ashwood.dudley.sch.uk

Bromley Hills
It's time to shine!

CONGRATULATIONS YEAR 6!

We are now at the end of another school year and we would like to say goodbye and thank you to our fantastic Year 6. You have worked so hard both this year and throughout your time at Bromley Hills, and we are incredibly proud of all that you have achieved. We will miss you! Good Luck and don't forget to let us know about the wonderful things you get up to!

"My time at Bromley Hills has been great because it's built up my confidence and self-esteem to make amazing friends and it has made me a better person." AK

Quotes from pupils:

"My time at Bromley Hills has been awesome because I get to spend every day with friends and spectacular teachers." JF

"My time at Bromley Hills has been marvellous because I've achieved goals that I thought I never would and I've met friends for life, that means the world to me." EC

Bromley Hills Primary School, Granville Drive, Kingswinford, West Midlands, DY6 8LW Tel: 01384 816940 Website: www.bromhills.dudley.sch.uk

Education

WHAT IS BIG SCHOOL?

Big School is a stand alone guide for year six students across the Black Country and South Staffordshire. Containing both commercial opportunities and authoritative information, it will feature advice and useful tips for parents and their children when choosing secondary school education.

For details of advertising packages please call Phil Robbins on 01902 319650 or e mail phil.robbins@expressandstar.co.uk

An Express & Star supplement

Express & Star

fast theticket

Rhythm is a dancer

Just what makes moves such a hit?
See Page 35

NATIVE MONSTER
Entertainment Unleashed

Gates open
See Page 35

For full listings see **Express & Star** every Friday

Travelstyle COACH HOLIDAYS **FREE BROCHURE 0844 288 0830** or visit travelstyletours.co.uk

SHOWTIME
2/4 DAYS FROM £99.95

HALF BOARD ACCOMMODATION
Ticket included

16 JUL • MAMMA MIA • BEAUTIFUL
6 AUG • LION KING • ALADDIN
21 AUG • DIRTY DANCING IN BLACKPOOL
3 SEP • ALADDIN • MATILDA
10 SEP • JERSEY BOYS • FUNNY GIRL
16 SEP • DANIEL O'DONNELL IN BOURNEMOUTH
17 SEP • CHICAGO THE MUSICAL & CHESTER
24 SEP • CHARLIE & CHOC FACTORY • KINKY BOOTS
1 OCT • MOTOWN • WICKED
8 OCT • SUNNY AFTERNOON • PHANTOM
15 OCT • LES MISERABLES
22 OCT • ALADDIN • LION KING
29 OCT • THE WIND AND THE WILLOWS IN SALFORD
29 OCT • MATILDA • JERSEY BOYS
5 NOV • MAMMA MIA • BEAUTIFUL
OR CHOOSE A MYSTERY SHOW

LONGLEAT SAFARI Jungle Cruise & Bath

2 DAYS £99.95
OVERNIGHT HALF BOARD
• Admission to Safari Park, Jungle Cruise, African Village, Longleat House & more plus visit to Bath
SAT 16 JUL, 27 AUG, 10 SEP, 1, 22 OCT

HOLY ISLAND, BAMBURGH & NORTHUMBERLAND

5 DAYS FROM £199.95
4 NIGHTS HALF BOARD Britannia Hotel, Woolsington
• Includes visits to Bamburgh, Seahouses & Holy Island, Berwick on Tweed and Cheviot Hills
MON 18 JUL, 8, 22 AUG, 12 SEP, 3 OCT

WARNER STUDIO TOUR Making of Harry Potter

2 DAYS £119.95
OVERNIGHT HALF BOARD
• Admission included plus visits to Science & Natural History Museums
SAT 20 AUG, 3, 24 SEP, 8 OCT, 12, 19, 26 NOV

LIVERPOOL BEATLES & CHESTER

2 for 1 BAR 6pm-9pm (T&C APPLY)
5 DAYS FROM £189.95
4 NIGHTS HALF BOARD Adelphi Hotel
• Includes Beatles Tour & Cavern Club, Mersey River Cruise & Visit to Chester
MON 11, 25 JUL, 1, 15 AUG, 5, 19 SEP, 24 OCT, 28 NOV

TORQUAY & EDEN PROJECT

4/5 DAYS FROM £179.95
3/4 NIGHTS HALF BOARD Seascape/Bancourt Hotel
• Admission included to Eden Project
4 DAYS FRI 22, 29 JUL, 5, 12, 19, 26 AUG
5 DAYS MON 18, 25 JUL, 8, 15, 22 AUG

ISLE OF ARRAN & LOCH LOMOND CRUISE

5 DAYS FROM £199.95
4 NIGHTS HALF BOARD Adamton House Hotel
• Isle of Arran tour & Loch Lomond Cruise
MON 18 JUL, 12 SEP, 3 OCT

DONT MISS! FLYING SCOTSMAN

2 DAYS FROM £89.95 OVERNIGHT HALF BOARD
• See Flying Scotsman in steam at Shildon (Jul) Severn Valley Steam Gala (Sep). All dates include steam train ride on a Vintage Locomotive
SAT 23, 30 JUL, 24 SEP

SOUTHPORT KESWICK & SEVEN LAKES

5 DAYS £179.95
4 NIGHTS HALF BOARD Scarisbrick Hotel, Southport
• Includes visits to Keswick, Kendal Market, Morecambe, Amside plus Severn Lakes Circular Tour
MON 11, 25 JUL, 1, 15 AUG, 5, 19 SEP, 24 OCT

BABBACOMBE DEVON STEAM, CRUISE & CREAM TEA

5 DAYS FROM £229.95
4 NIGHTS HALF BOARD Trecarn Hotel
• Includes South Devon steam train ride & River Dart cruise, plus an afternoon Devon cream tea
MON 11, 18, 25 JUL, 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 AUG, 5, 12 SEP

POLAR BEARS, PENGUINS & KINGDOM OF ICE

2 DAYS £99.95
OVERNIGHT HALF BOARD
• Includes admission to Yorkshire Wildlife Park, home of UK's only Polar Bears & The Deep Kingdom of Ice!
SAT 16 JUL, 6 AUG, 3 SEP, 15 OCT

5 DAY BREAKS FROM £179.95

TORQUAY
11, 18, 25 Jul
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Aug

ISLE OF WIGHT
11, 18, 25 Jul
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Aug

BOURNEMOUTH
11, 18, 25 Jul
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Aug

EASTBOURNE
11, 25 Jul
1, 8, 15, 22 Aug

FOLKESTONE & OSTEND
11, 18, 25 Jul
1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Aug

LLANDUDNO
11, 25 Jul,
1, 8, 15 Aug, 5, 19 Sep

Explore more: Lake Garda, Austria, Costa Brava, Ostend, Amsterdam, Disneyland, Paris, Ireland **from £189.95**

Lionel Richie

Thursday, 8pm
Barclaycard Arena, B'ham
Hello! If it's this Motown legend you're looking for, the former Commodore will be performing his hits All Night Long for his still-adoring fans. Support from Corinne Bailey Rae.
Visit **www.barclaycardarena.co.uk**

Mamma Mia!

Until September 3, various times, B'ham Hippodrome
The feel-good musical set on a sunny Greek island and packed with ABBA hits is the Hippodrome's big summer show and continues to draw crowds after opening this week.
Visit **birminghamhippodrome.com**

Danny Bhoy

Saturday, 7pm
Slade Rooms, W'ton
The globe-trotting Scottish comedian will be giving an audience in Wolverhampton a preview of his new 70-minute show before he jets off to Canada, Australia and New Zealand.
Visit **wolvescivic.co.uk**

Heartbeat

Tuesday to Saturday, 2.30pm and 7.30pm
Grand Theatre, W'ton
A play version of the popular long-running ITV show about police in 1960s rural Yorkshire with David Lonsdale (right) and Steven Blakeley returning.
Visit **www.grandtheatre.co.uk**

THE GLASSCUTTERS ARMS

Come along and enjoy our
Traditional Hospitality
Enville HPA Ale and Bumble hole
Everyone Welcome.....
Open: Monday- Thursday 3pm- 11.30
Friday 3pm- 12 • Saturday 12.30pm- 12
Sunday 12pm- 11
9 BARNETT STREET, WORDSLEY, DY8 5QL

Timeshare Advice
Own a Timeshare? Unsure which way to turn? Call us now on
0800 007 3262
www.TimeshareAdvice.co.uk

For The Best Bookings In
theticket

Want to talk to someone about your Express & Star?

PAYMENTS?
SUBSCRIPTIONS?
HOLIDAYS?
LATE PAPER?

Call freephone 0800 146 540
Lines open Mon-Fri 9am to 7pm and Sat 9am to 2.30pm.
Please call our freephone number for all issues relating to your delivery.
Express & Star

POP

Kick Up The 80s: 1980s Tribute
Tomorrow at 7pm,
The RoadHouse Birmingham,
Kings Norton, Birmingham,
B30 3DZ.
Call 0121 246 2273

ROCK & METAL

Seyes: Yes Tribute
Sun at 8.30pm,
The Robin 2 Hotel, Bilston,
WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Heart
Sun at 7.30pm - 10pm,
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

Just Floyd: Pink Floyd Tribute
Sun at 1pm, £8 - £10
The Robin 2 Hotel,
Bilston,
WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Supreme Queen: Tribute
Tomorrow at 7.30pm,
Palace Theatre,
Redditch,
B98 8AE.
Call 01527 65203

Underground Empire
Tomorrow at 7pm,
O2 Academy Birmingham,
Birmingham, B1 1DB.
Call 0121 622 8250

Catapult Club Feat. Let Vengeance Rise
Thu at 6.30pm,
O2 Academy Birmingham,
B1 1DB.
Call 0121 622 8250

Millbrook
Thu at 7.30pm - 11pm,
Hare & Hounds,
Kings Heath,
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

The Springsteen Sessions: Bruce Springsteen Tribute
Tonight at 8.30pm,
The Robin 2 Hotel, Bilston,
WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Electus
Wed at 7.30pm,
The Robin 2 Hotel, Bilston,
WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Pure Purple: Deep Purple Tribute
Tomorrow at 7.30pm,
The Robin 2 Hotel, Bilston,
WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Pioneers Of The Synthesisers
Thu at 8.45pm,
The Robin 2 Hotel, Bilston,
WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Paws
Mon at 7.30pm,
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

JAZZ, FUNK, SOUL, BLUES & MOTOWN

Lionel Richie: All The Hits
Thu at 7pm,
Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham,
B1 2AA.
Call 0121 780 4141

Jazz House
Sun at 5.30pm - 7.30pm,
Light House, Wolverhampton,
WV1 1HT.
Call 01902 716055

Young Pilgrims
Tonight - tomorrow at 8.30pm - 2am,
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

Buddy Guy
Tonight at 7.30pm,
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

CLASSICAL

Gawain Hewitt: Beneath The Waves
Sun at 7.30pm,
mac, Birmingham, B12 9QH.
Call 0121 446 3232

BICS 2015/16 Brant International Piano Competition, Birmingham: The Final
Tomorrow at 3pm,
Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

Music For Youth National Festival
Tue at 9am, Wed at 9am, Thu at 9am,
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

Star Wars & Beyond – A Space Spectacular
Tomorrow at 7.30pm,
Symphony Hall, Birmingham,
B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

FESTIVALS

On The Edge 2016
Sun - Thu,
Birmingham Repertory Theatre,
B1 2EP.
Call 0121 236 4455

CLUBBING

Soul Fusion Presents: The Unda-Vybes Session Live
Tomorrow at 10.30pm,
The Rainbow, Digbeth,
Birmingham, B12 0LD.
Call 0121 753 1818

Propaganda
Tonight - tomorrow at 10.30pm - 3.30am,
O2 Academy Birmingham,
B1 1DB.
Call 0121 622 8250

COMEDY

Hardeep Singh Kohli: Preview
Tonight at 8pm, £13 - £14
mac, Birmingham, B12 9QH.
Call 0121 446 3232

Edinburgh Preview – Lucy Porter & Carey Marx
Wed at 7.30pm,
The Glee Club, Birmingham,
B5 4TD.
Call 0871 472 0400

Jim Jefferies: The Freedumb Tour
Wed at 7pm,
O2 Academy Birmingham,
B1 1DB.
Call 0121 622 8250

Thursday Night Comedy Carousel
Thu at 8pm,
The Glee Club, Birmingham,
B5 4TD.
Call 0871 472 0400

The Best In Live Stand-up Comedy
Tonight at 7pm - 8.15pm, Tomorrow at 7pm - 8.15pm,
The Glee Club, Birmingham,
B5 4TD.
Call 0871 472 0400

Saturday Night Comedy
Tue at 8pm - 10.30pm, £
Risa Highlight, 259-262
Broad Street, Birmingham,
West Midlands, B1 2HF. Call
01216324936

Danny Bhoy
Tomorrow at 7pm,
The Slade Rooms,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1RQ.
Call 0870 320 7000
And
Sun at 8pm,
The Glee Club, Birmingham,
B5 4TD.
Call 0871 472 0400
And
Mon at 7.30pm, £10
Artrix, Bromsgrove, B60 1PQ.
Call 01527 577330

THEATRE

Gangsta Granny
Tonight at 7pm, Tomorrow at 10.30am, 2.30pm, 7pm,
New Alexandra Theatre,
Birmingham,
B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

Brush
Sun at 11am, 2.30pm, Mon at 10.30am, 1pm, Tue at 10.30am, 1pm,
mac, Birmingham,
B12 9QH.
Call 0121 446 3232

Heartbeat
Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm,
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,
WV1 1DE.
Call 01902 573320

One Night Only: Gaston-Payne Dance & Theatre School
Sun at 1pm, 5pm,
Oakengates Theatre, Telford,
TF2 6EP.
Call 01952 382382

Rhythm Of The Dance
Mon at 7.30pm,
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,
WV1 1DE.
Call 01902 573320

The Broke 'N' Beat Collective
Mon at 7pm, Tue at 1pm, Wed at 7pm,
The Old Rep Theatre,
Birmingham, B5 4DY.
Call 0121 605 5116

Reinraumraus
Thu at 10.30am, 1.30pm,
mac, Birmingham, B12 9QH.
Call 0121 446 3232

Boing! (Ages 2-6)
Sun at 11am, 2.30pm, Mon at 10.30am, Tue at 10.30am,
mac, Birmingham, B12 9QH.
Call 0121 446 3232

The Sooty Show: Sooty In Space
Sat and Sun,
Cadbury World, Bournville,
Birmingham, B30 2LU.
Call 0844 880 7667

Dream Catcher: Stage 2 Performing Arts Academy
Thu at 7pm,
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,
SY3 8FT.
Call 01743 281281

One Night Only: Stagecoach Shrewsbury
Tomorrow at 5pm,
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,
SY3 8FT.
Call 01743 281281

West End Story
Tomorrow at 7.30pm,
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,
SY3 8FT.
Call 01743 281281

Rehearsal For Murder
Tonight at 7.30pm, Tomorrow at 2.30pm, 7.30pm,
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,
SY3 8FT.
Call 01743 281281

Grumpy Old Women: 50 Shades Of Beige
Wed at 8pm,
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

Some Guys Have All The Luck: The Rod Stewart Story
Tonight at 7.30pm,
Oakengates Theatre, Telford,
TF2 6EP.
Call 01952 382382

Rehearsal For Murder
Tonight at 7.30pm, Tomorrow at 2.30pm, 7.30pm,
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,
SY3 8FT.
Call 01743 281281

Swap!
Tonight at 7.30pm, Tomorrow at 2.30pm, 7.30pm,
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,
WV1 1DE.
Call 01902 573320

Musical Youth Theatre Stafford: Bugsy Malone
Wed at 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm,
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre,
ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

The Best Thing
Tonight at 7.30pm, Tomorrow at 7.30pm,
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

Mamma Mia!
Tonight at 7.30pm - 10pm, Sat at 2.30pm - 5.30pm, Mon at 7.30pm - 10pm, Tue at 7.30pm - 10pm, Wed at 2.30pm - 5.30pm, 7.30pm - 10pm, Thu at 7.30pm - 10pm,
£28 - £60
Birmingham Hippodrome,
B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

OTHER EVENTS

Contemporary Craft Markets
Sun at 11am, Free
mac, Birmingham, B12 9QH.
Call 0121 446 3232

Artforum
Wed at 4.30pm - 6.30pm,
Wolverhampton Art Gallery,
WV1 1DU.
Call 01902 552055

Young Artists
Tomorrow at 1pm - 3pm,
Wolverhampton Art Gallery,
WV1 1DU.
Call 01902 552055

Live Your Legacy National Cheer & Dance Championships
Sat and Sun,
Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham,
B1 2AA. Call 0121 780 4141

Currys PC World's Ultimate Home Of Football In Birmingham
Tonight at 9pm - 11pm, Tomorrow at 9pm - 11pm, Sun at 9pm - 11pm,
Bullring Shopping Centre, Birmingham, B5 4BU.
Call 0121 632 1500

Wine Tasting At Bohemia
Thu at 7.30pm,
Bohemia, Selly Oak,
Birmingham, B29 6JE.
Call 0121 471 2713

Kings Heath Food Assembly
Tue at 7.30pm - 9pm,
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath,
Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star

Celebrating Irish music and dance

Some of the Rhythm of the Dance singers and musicians in action during a show dedicated to popular Irish culture

A SHOW which celebrates the rich history of Ireland and the art of Irish music and dance is at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre on Monday.

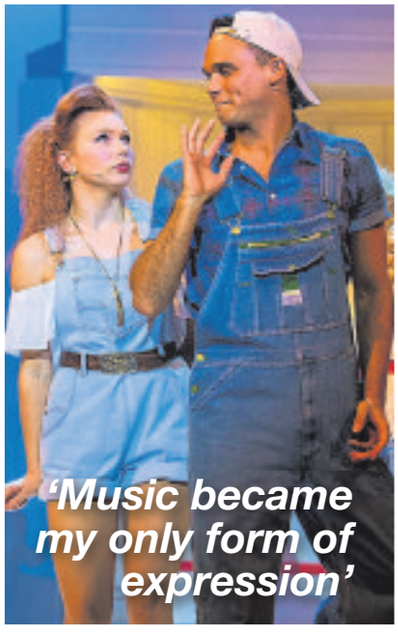
Fans can look forward to a variety of routines from the disciplined Celtic Step to the ancient Sean Nos (old style) dance in a show featuring 22 dancers.

The Grand's Scott Bird said: "Rhythm of the Dance creates a new era in Irish entertainment, presenting world champion dancers, a traditional Irish band and the handsome Young Irish Tenors.

"Rhythm of the Dance is internationally rated as one of the most popular and successful Irish step dance shows on tour, by critics, audiences and fans around the world."

The show's choreographer is former Riverdance The Show dancer Doireann Carney. The lead female dancer Nicola Kennedy, a member of the Maura McGowan school of Irish Dancing, won many Northern Ireland competitions before joining Michael Flatley's show Feet of Flames, performing in front of an audience of 30,000 in Taiwan.

Tickets are available from the venue via its website at grandtheatre.co.uk or by calling the box office on 01902 429212.



Now Gareth is Footloose

IT is now 14 years since the baby-faced Gareth Gates battled it out with Will Young on top TV show Pop Idol. And while he ultimately lost out to his fellow contestant, life hasn't treated him too badly.

After nine hit singles and two successful albums, he turned his attentions to musical theatre, also taking in a stint on TV's Dancing on Ice along the way.

Musical theatre was Gareth's first love since he played the title role in a school production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat aged eight.

"I then went on to play the role in the West End for Andrew Lloyd Webber some 17 years later," says the 31-year-old leading man.

The Lloyd Webber production was actually Gates's first professional theatre job. It was immediately followed by a two-year sting as Marius in Les Miserables, which he says is his favourite musical. He describes the role of Marius as the theatrical highlight of his career.

Gates, who has spoken with a stutter all his life, says music became a form of escape.

"As a child I was never able to speak, and so music became my only form of expression," he says."I knew that music was all I wanted in life."

Now he is coming to Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre as Willard in Footloose: The Musical, a revival of the Broadway hit based on the popular 1984 movie about a youth rebellion in a rural American town where dancing is banned.

The Dean Pitchford and Walter Bobbie musical, staged from Monday to Saturday, will also feature Maureen Nolan.

Robin 2 tributes to rock legends

IT'S a big weekend of classic rock tribute shows at Bilston's Robin 2 venue, starting tommorow (Friday) with Scottish tribute to Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band, The Springsteen Sessions.

Pure Purple presents a tribute to Deep Purple in a double bill with Lovehunter's Whitesnake celebration on Saturday night.

Then on Sunday Just Floyd give a three hour performance of Pink Floyd classics starting at 1pm. The prog rock continues that evening with the SeYes performance dedicated to the music of Yes.

For tickets see therobin.co.uk or call 01902 401211.

Rep at hub of world youth theatre week

BIRMINGHAM is set to host the eight-day 2016 World Festival of Theatre for Young Audiences from Saturday.

Featuring 16 shows by artists from 14 countries, including the UK, Ireland, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Australia and South Korea, the festival takes place in venues across the city with Birmingham Repertory Theatre as the main festival hub.

Surrounding the packed programme of shows are workshops and discussions about theatre for young audiences for those working in theatre. The festival will attract around 500 international visitors. See www.ontheedge2016.com for details.

TV comic will be returning to club

TV comic Patrick Monahan is returning to headline a pub's comedy club in Stourbridge for the third time in two years.

Mr Monahan, who has appeared on Show Me The Funny, Celebrity Squares and The Paul O'Grady Show, will be back at Fitz of Laughter Comedy Club tomorrow (Friday). The popular Teessider headlined the first Fitz of Laughter show at Katie Fitzgerald's nearly two years ago and returned last July for a one-hour preview of his touring show The Disco Years.

Tickets are £10 at www.skiddle.com/e/12557353 or by calling compere Wayne Beese on 07507 015397. Doors open 8pm.

Stourbridge Chronicle Thursday, June 30, 2016

CHOICE

Dermot O'Leary

The Getaway Car (BBC1, 6.40pm)
Dermot O'Leary takes five duos to the South African countryside, where he puts their nerves, driving and communication skills, and ultimately their relationships to the test in a series of high-octane car-based challenges. The teams must negotiate Hazard Highway, Off-Road Rage, Drive-Thru and Getaway Chase, with the most successful pair receiving a chance to pit their talents behind the wheel against those of Top Gear's resident stunt-driver the Stig. Should they triumph, the winners will claim a £10,000 cash prize and the title of Getaway Champions.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Mary Berry's Absolute Favourites. (R) **12.00** BBC News. **12.10** Wimbledon 2016. Further live coverage from the All England Club.
6.20 BBC News.
6.30 Regional Programme.
6.40 The Getaway Car. Dermot O'Leary takes five duos to the South African countryside, where he puts their nerves, driving and communication skills, and ultimately their relationships to the test in a series of high-octane car-based challenges. The teams must negotiate Hazard Highway, Off-Road Rage, Drive-Thru and Getaway Chase, with the most successful pair receiving a chance to pit their talents behind the wheel against those of Top Gear's resident stunt-driver the Stig. Should they triumph, the winners will claim a £10,000 cash prize and the title of Getaway Champions.
7.30 MOTD: Euro 2016 Live. The third quarter-final (Kick-off 8.00pm). Gary Lineker presents coverage of this evening's fixture at the Nouveau Stade de Bordeaux, where the first place in the second semi-final will be confirmed. The winners of groups C and E could well be involved in this fixture, which means there is every chance that Germany will be looking to continue their outstanding record in European Championship finals. Should they still be in the tournament, they will also be aiming to hold two major titles at the same time, having been victorious in the 2014 World Cup in Brazil. Subsequent programmes subject to change.
10.05 The National Lottery Live. Ore Oduba presents as the all-important winning numbers are revealed.
10.15 BBC News; Weather.
10.35 Live at the Apollo; (R) National Lottery Update.
11.20 Film: Old School. (2003)
12.50 Weather for the Week Ahead.
12.55 BBC News.

In the event of football not being shown the schedule may run as follows:
6.40 Regional News; Weather **6.50** TBA **7.40** The National Lottery: In It To Win It **8.30** The Musketeers **9.25-10.15** Casualty **10.35-11.20** MOTD: Euro 2016 Highlights

BBC2

6.10 The Women's Football Show. (R) **6.40 Film:** Angel on My Shoulder. (1946) Fantasy, starring Paul Muni. **8.25 Film:** In Which We Serve. (1942) The survivors of a maritime disaster recall their adventures as they cling to the wreckage. Second World War drama, starring Noel Coward, John Mills and Richard Attenborough. **10.15** Talking Tennis. **11.00** Wimbledon 2016. Day six gets under way at the All England Club. **12.10** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** Escape to the Country. (R) **1.30** The Great British Sewing Bee. (R) **2.30** Wimbledon 2016. Further live coverage on day six of the third Grand Slam tournament of the year at the All England Club, featuring the third-round matches in the singles draws. Sue Barker presents.
8.30 Today at Wimbledon. Clare Balding introduces highlights of the sixth day's play at the All England Club, where the men's and ladies' third-round singles matches were due to reach a conclusion. The middle Saturday is always a special occasion at SW19 and the crowd on Centre Court last year were treated to the sight of Roger Federer and Andy Murray progressing to the fourth round with respective victories over Sam Groth and Andreas Seppi, while Petra Kvitova's title defence ended against Jelena Jankovic.
9.30 QI XL. Extended edition. Question master Stephen Fry continues the comedy panel quiz's exploration of subjects beginning with the letter L as he asks a range of fiendish questions on the topic of ladies and gents. Joining regular panellist Alan Davies are stand-up comedian Ross Noble, Australian author Kathy Lette and comedienne and Great British Bake Off presenter Sue Perkins.
10.15 Versailles. Philippe returns from war a changed man, while the debauched urges of dissident duke Cassel must be pandered to by Madame de Montespan; (R) Inside Versailles.
11.15 Best of Glastonbury 2016. Another chance to see some of the highlights from this year's festival at Worthy Farm in Somerset, including many of the headline artists, and a selection of bespoke acoustic sets.
1.15 MOTD: Euro 2016 Match Replay. **2.55** This Is BBC Two. Preview of upcoming programmes from BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! **6.20** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.30** Dino Dan. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.00** Sooty. (R) **7.15** Super 4. (R) **7.30** Oddbods. (R) **7.35** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **8.00** NinjaGo: Masters of Spinjitzu. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.20** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.20** Who's Doing the Dishes? (R) **12.20** ITV News; Weather. **12.25** The Wine Show. **1.30** Big Box Little Box. (R) **2.00** Doc Martin. (R) **3.00** Live FIA Formula E Championship. The London ePrix. **5.30** You've Been Framed! (R)
6.00 Regional Programme; Weather.
6.10 ITV News; Weather.
6.30 Catchphrase. New series. Stephen Mulhern hosts the game show, asking contestants Bianca Davies, Tony Neill Cowell and Jo Atkins to "see it and say it" as they try to guess the familiar phrases hidden in animated clues.
7.15 Euro 2016. The third quarter-final (Kick-off 8.00pm). Mark Pougatch presents coverage of this evening's fixture at the Nouveau Stade de Bordeaux, where the first place in the second semi-final will be confirmed. The winners of groups C and E could well be involved in this fixture, which means there is every chance that Germany will be looking to continue their outstanding record in European Championship finals. Should they still be in the tournament, they will also be aiming to hold two major titles at the same time, having been victorious in the 2014 World Cup in Brazil. Subsequent programmes subject to change.
10.15 ITV News; Weather.
10.35 Pop Gold. (R)
11.35 Film: Carry On Again Doctor. (1969) Comedy.
1.10 Jackpot247. **3.00** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

In the event of football not being shown the schedule may run as follows:
12.29-12.30 Local Weather **5.30** All Star Family Fortunes (R) **6.15** ITV Regional News And Weather **6.30** ITV News And Weather **6.45** You've Been Framed! **7.15** Catchphrase (R) **8.00** Midsomer Murders (R) **10.00** ITV News And Weather **10.15** Euro 2016 Highlights **11.15** FILM: Carry On Again Doctor (PG/1969) **12.45-3.00** Jackpot247

CHANNEL 4

6.15 Salvage SOS. (R) **6.40** Salvage SOS. (R) **7.05** Motor Sport: Scottish Rally. **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.00** The Morning Line. **10.00** Car SOS. (R) **11.00** The Superhumans Show. **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Sandown Park and Haydock Park. **4.15** A Place in the Sun: Summer Sun. **5.15** Channel 4 News. **5.30** Formula 1: Austrian Grand Prix Qualifying Highlights.
7.00 Gogglesprogs. Young TV viewers watch a range of programmes, from entertainment shows to documentaries and classic films, as well as up-to-the-minute news reports. In London, childhood friends Shuaib and Janai love watching cartoons together. In Birmingham, mates Edie and Teanna are both in the school book club, and in Leicester are six-year old Geet and her four-year-old brother Hanson, who wants to be a Formula 1 racing driver. In this edition, the Gogglesprogs give their honest and hilarious views on Simply Nigella, The Lion King and Made in Chelsea. (R)
8.00 Film: Avatar. (2009) A paraplegic soldier uses technology that allows him to control a genetically engineered body on a mission to a dangerous jungle world. His assignment is to infiltrate an alien tribe on behalf of a corrupt mining corporation, which wants to drive them from their land. He comes to sympathise with the natives, and helps them fight back against his employers. James Cameron's sci-fi adventure, starring Sam Worthington, Zoe Saldana, Sigourney Weaver and Stephen Lang.
11.10 Film: Wanted. (2008) A man joins a secret society of superpowered assassins that kills people destined to commit acts of evil. Action adventure, starring James McAvoy, Angelina Jolie and Morgan Freeman.
1.15 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. Blackberry's in Plainfield, New Jersey. (R) **2.05** Hollyoaks. Omnibus. The McQueens prepare for Pete's trial, and Reenie lets Cleo down when she goes missing. Nathan lend Holly support , and in the court room, Cleo's honesty is questioned. (R) **4.10** Posh Pawnbrokers. (R) **5.10** Fifteen to One. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **8.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **9.30** The Saturday Show Live. **11.30** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.30** Police Interceptors: Under Attack. (R) **1.25 Film:** Wyatt Earp. (1994) Western, starring Kevin Costner. **5.00** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R)
6.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. Kevin Stokes and Brian O'Shaughnessy get into a doorstep confrontation with a debtor who wants to prove her family business is bankrupt. However, when tempers flare Brian is assaulted and the agents call the police. Elsewhere, Paul Bohill and Steve Pinner face evicting three properties owned by the same landlord in north London, and Brian and Delroy Anglin collect £2,000 debt owed to a vet in Kent. (R)
6.55 5 News Weekend.
7.00 Cricket on 5. England v Sri Lanka. Mark Nicholas presents highlights of the fifth and final one-day international in the series, which took place at The SSE SWALEC in Cardiff.
8.00 NCIS. An Iraq war veteran asks Gibbs to investigate the killing of another former marine, who was murdered while working as a lorry driver, so Ziva hits the road to catch the culprit. (R)
8.55 NCIS. DiNozzi teams up with his girlfriend, ATF agent Zoe Keates, to investigate the circumstances surrounding the death of a US Marine in what initially seems like a simple road accident. The team reveals the dead man did indeed die due to a broken neck sustained during a crash, but someone shot at him first. As DiNozzi and Keates pursue their inquiry, they discover the victim's death is connected to a controversial ATF plan to place traceable firearms in the criminal system, and then follow them to the heads of crime organisations.
9.55 5 News Weekend.
10.00 Big Brother. Catching up with the Big Brother contestants as they react to Friday night's live eviction, revealing how another departure has affected the rest of the house.
11.05 Danniella Westbrook: In Therapy. (R)
12.00 SuperCasino. **3.10** Big Brother. (R) **4.00** Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R) **4.50** Divine Designs. (R) **5.20** House Doctor. (R) **5.45** Angels of Jarm. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 The Mary Rose: A Timewatch Guide **8.00** The Last Seabird Summer? **9.00 Film:** The Hypnotist (2012) **10.55** Storyville: Smash & Grab – The Story of the Pink Panthers **12.25** Top of the Pops: 1982 **1.35** Mr Blue Sky: The Story of Jeff Lynne and ELO **2.35** Jeff Lynne's ELO at Hyde Park **3.55** Close
ITV2
11.15 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **11.45** You've Been Framed! **12.15** Catchphrase Celebrity Special **1.20 Film:** Rumour Has It (2005) **2.20** FYI Daily **2.25 Film:** Rumour Has It (2005) **3.15 Film:** Beethoven's 2nd (1993) **4.15** FYI Daily **4.20 Film:** Beethoven's 2nd (1993) **5.05 Film:** Charlotte's Web (2006) **6.05** FYI Daily **6.10 Film:** Charlotte's Web (2006) **7.00 Film:** Evan Almighty (2007) **8.00** FYI Daily **8.05 Film:** Evan Almighty (2007) **9.00** Love Island: The Weekly Hotlist **10.00** Celebrity Juice **10.50** Family Guy **12.20** American Dad! **12.50 Film:** Friends with Kids (2011) **1.50** FYI Daily **1.55 Film:** Friends with Kids (2011) **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen
ITV3
12.55 Film: Columbo: Butterfly in Shades of Grey (1993) **2.55** Midsomer Murders **7.00** Doc Martin **8.00** Lewis **10.00** A Touch of Frost **12.10** The Jury **1.10** City Lights **2.05** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping
ITV4
11.00 Tour de France Live. Coverage of the opening stage of this year's race. **4.30** Pawn Stars **7.00** Tour de France Highlights **8.00 Film:** Jackie Chan's First Strike (1996) **9.00** FYI Daily **9.05 Film:** Jackie Chan's First Strike (1996) **9.45 Film:** Terminator 2: Judgment Day (1991) **10.50** FYI Daily **10.55 Film:** Terminator 2: Judgment Day (1991) **12.30** Motorway Patrol **1.00** Tour de France Highlights **2.00** The Wine Show **2.55** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping
E4
12.30 Baby Daddy **1.30** Melissa & Joey **2.30** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **3.00** The Goldbergs **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00 Film:** This Is 40 (2012) **11.40** Gogglebox **1.50** The Inbetweeners **2.50** Rude Tube **3.45** The New Normal
Film4
11.00 Arizona Raiders (1965) **1.00** Bandslam (2009) **3.10** Carry On Behind (1975) **4.55** Johnny English Reborn (2011) **7.00** About a Boy (2002) **9.00** Speed (1994) **11.15** The Counsellor (2013) **1.30** Psycho (1960) **3.50** Close

CHOICE

China's Forgotten Emperor (Channel 4, 8pm)
Documentary about Wu Zetian, the only woman to become emperor of China. Wu Zetian ruled China in the last years of the seventh century, and has always had a reputation as a brutal tyrant. However, recent archaeological finds have shed new light on her reign, revealing a gifted politician who shaped her country into a military, economic and cultural superpower. The programme examines tombs, palaces and treasures from her dynasty that shed new light on her skills as a leader but also on the violence of her regime.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** The Muslim Pound. **1.45** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **2.45** Escape to the Continent. (R) **3.45** Animal Super Parents. (R) **4.40** Songs of Praise. **5.15** Pointless Celebrities. (R)

6.05 BBC News.

6.20 Regional Programme.

6.30 Countryfile. John Craven explores Pembrokeshire's boating heritage and learns a few sea shanties, while Helen Skelton forages for seaweed on Freshwater West Beach to make a meal and meets the people who made an eco house from local materials. Sanjida O'Connell surveys the Manx Shearwater on Skomer, Adam Henson delivers some rare cattle in Cornwall, and Tom Heap examines how farms can reduce their greenhouse emissions. Includes weather for the week ahead.

7.30 MOTD: Euro 2016 Live. The fourth quarter-final (Kick-off 8.00pm). Gary Lineker presents coverage of the concluding match of this stage, which takes place at the Stade de France in Paris. The winners of this fixture will meet the victorious side from last night in Marseille on Thursday and the local supporters will hope that France are involved. The French have already won here on the opening night of the tournament against Romania, and their habit of doing just enough to win, with late victories in that match and against Albania, should serve them well during the knockout phase. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 Room 101 – Extra Storage. (R)

11.10 Film: No Strings Attached. (2011)

12.50 Weather for the Week Ahead.
12.55 BBC News.

In the event of football not being shown the schedule may run as follows:
7.30 Antiques Roadshow (R) **8.30** The Musketeers **9.25** Casualty **10.15** BBC News **10.35** Regional News; Weather **10.45** MOTD: Euro 2016 Highlights **11.30** FILM: No Strings Attached (15/2011) **1.10** Weather For The Week Ahead **1.15-1.15** BBC News

BBC2

6.45 Great British Garden Revival. (R) **7.45** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.15** Countryfile. (R) **9.15** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. (R) **10.45** Tom Kerridge's Best Ever Dishes. (R) **11.15** A Cook Abroad: Rick Stein's Australia. (R) **12.15** The Hairy Bikers' Northern Exposure. (R) **1.15 Film:** The Caine Mutiny. (1954) Second World War naval drama, starring Humphrey Bogart. **3.15** Triathlon. **5.15** Flog It! (R)

6.00 Gardeners' World. Horticultural ideas and advice. (R)

6.30 Film: Bedtime Stories. (2008) Fantasy comedy, starring Adam Sandler, Keri Russell, Guy Pearce and Russell Brand.

8.00 Top Gear. Matt LeBlanc test drives the new Porsche 911 R, and Chris Evans tries out an MGB Roadster. Rory Reid goes to Scotland to check out Ford's first ever Mustang with right-hand drive, and Chris Harris puts Honda's latest NSX through its paces. Patrick Dempsey and Greg Davies are the Stars in a Rallycross Car. Last in the series.

9.00 Dragons' Den: Pitches to Riches. Richard Osman presents a look back at some of the most memorable contestants to appear on the business ideas show, and discovers what success they have enjoyed since making their pitch to the panel. Peter Jones pays a visit to celebrity chef Levi Roots, whose company Reggae Reggae Sauce became a success through his appearance on the show, while Deborah Meaden is reunited with Jordan Daykin, the youngest ever contestant to secure the backing of a Dragon, to discover if he has fulfilled his potential as an entrepreneur. (R)

10.00 Mock the Week. Topical comedy quiz show. (R)

10.30 Serena. A look into the life of Serena Williams.

11.50 MOTD: Euro 2016 Match Replay.

1.30 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **2.25** Holby City. (R) **3.25** This Is BBC Two.

In the event of football not being shown on BBC1 the schedule may run as follows:
6.30 Top Gear **7.30** FILM: Catch Me If You Can (12/2002) **9.45** Mock The Week (R) **10.20** Serena **11.35** MOTD: Euro 2016 Match Replay **1.15** Sign Zone: Countryfile (R) **2.10** Sign Zone: Holby City (R) **3.10-3.10** This Is BBC Two

ITV

6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! **6.20** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.30** Dino Dan. **6.45** Dino Dan. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.00** Sooty. **7.15** Super 4. (R) **7.30** Oddbods. **7.35** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **7.45** Looped. (R) **8.00** Teen Titans Go! **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** Countrywise. (R) **10.00** Peston on Sunday. **11.00** FIA Formula E Championship. **12.00** ITV News; Weather. **12.15** Masterpiece with Alan Titchmarsh. (R) **1.20** Off Their Rockers Blue Badge Special. (R) **1.55** Love Your Garden. (R) **3.00** Live FIA Formula E Championship. The London ePrix. **5.45** Regional Programme ; Weather.

6.00 ITV News; Weather.

6.15 You've Been Framed! Harry Hill narrates a comical selection of mishaps filmed by viewers, featuring everything from giddy grandmas, cute kids and crazy animals to below-the-belt mishaps, practical jokers and painful-looking accidents. (R)

7.15 Euro 2016. The fourth quarter-final (Kick-off 8.00pm). Mark Pougatch presents coverage of the concluding match of this stage, which takes place at the Stade de France in Paris. The winners of this fixture will meet the victorious side from last night in Marseille on Thursday and the local supporters will hope that France are involved. The French have already won here on the opening night of the tournament against Romania, and their habit of doing just enough to win, with late victories in that match and against Albania, should serve them well during the knockout phase. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

10.15 ITV News; Weather.

10.35 River Monsters. (R)

11.40 Peston on Sunday. (R)

12.30 Jackpot247. Interactive gaming. **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** British Superbike Championship Highlights.

In the event of football not being shown the schedule may run as follows:
12.14-12.15 Local Weather **5.45** Catchphrase **6.30** ITV Regional News And Weather **6.45** ITV News And Weather **7.00** You've Been Framed! **8.00** Endeavour **10.00** ITV News And Weather **10.14** Local Weather **10.15** Euro 2016 Highlights **11.10** Peston On Sunday (R) **12.10-3.00** Jackpot247 **4.45-5.05** Nightscreen

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Salvage SOS. **6.25** Salvage SOS. **6.50** The King of Queens. (R) **7.15** The King of Queens. (R) **7.40** The King of Queens. (R) **8.00** Frasier. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Simpsons. (R) **1.00** The Simpsons. (R) **1.30 Film:** Clueless. (1995) Comedy, starring Alicia Silverstone. **3.25** Location, Location, Location. Kirstie Allsopp and Phil Spencer help two sets of first-time buyers search for properties in Bristol and the nearby countryside of the Cotswolds. (R) **4.30** A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun. Jonnie Irwin helps a couple who got married in Phuket to find a new home on the island, which they intend to use as a holiday home before eventually emigrating. **5.30** Channel 4 News.

6.00 Formula 1: Austrian Grand Prix Highlights. Steve Jones presents action from the ninth round of the season, which took place at the Red Bull Ring in Spielberg. Nico Rosberg extended his lead over Mercedes team-mate Lewis Hamilton at the top of the drivers' championship with victory in the last race in Azerbaijan, and the German will have been able to take confidence from the fact that he won this race in 2015 and overtook Hamilton in the process.

8.00 China's Forgotten Emperor. Documentary about Wu Zetian, the only woman to become emperor of China, and reassessing her supposedly brutal reign in the seventh century in light of new archaeological finds.

9.00 Film: Pitch Perfect. (2012) A new student finds herself a social outcast during her first year of college, but soon acquires a new circle of friends in a band of misfits with a shared talent for singing. She joins their a cappella group and leads them to compete in the campus music competitions. Comedy, starring Anna Kendrick, Rebel Wilson and Elizabeth Banks.

11.10 Film: Piranha 3DD. (2012) The opening of a water park is turned into a massacre when man-eating fish start feasting on the visitors. Comedy horror sequel, starring Danielle Panabaker and Matt Bush.

12.40 Cyberbully. A teenager is targeted by an advanced computer hacker, revealing the dark depths of the internet. Maisie Williams stars in this chilling thriller inspired by real-life cases. (R) **1.55 Film:** Play. (2011) **3.50** French Collection. (R) **4.40** Fifteen to One. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **6.15** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.30** Bob the Builder. (R) **6.40** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **6.50** Zack and Quack. (R) **7.05** Pets. (R) **7.10** Noddy in Toyland. (R) **7.20** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.35** Little Princess. (R) **7.50** Pip Ahoy! (R) **8.05** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.30** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.45** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **9.10** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.30** LazyTown. (R) **9.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.30** Now That's Funny! (R) **11.25** Now That's Funny! (R) **12.25** Now That's Funny! (R) **1.25 Film:** Igor. (2008) Premiere. Animated comedy, with the voice of John Cusack. **3.00 Film:** Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole. (2010) Premiere. Animated fantasy, with the voice of Jim Sturgess. **4.45 Film:** Marley & Me. (2008) Comedy drama, starring Owen Wilson and Jennifer Aniston.

7.00 The Secret Life of Kittens. Concluding part of the documentary following kittens from birth to 12 months old, revealing how the sights, smells and sounds they experience and the friends they make during this period create†indelible impressions and shape their unique personalities. †Cameras capture all the formative moments, including their first exploration of their home environment, their curtain-climbing acrobatics, and the first time they venture out to meet the neighbourhood cats. (R)

8.00 Now That's Funny! A collection of internet-sourced videos with a family friendly hook, featuring babies learning about the world the hard way and an excitable airline passenger.

8.55 5 News Weekend.

9.00 Big Brother. Daily round-up of highlights, revealing how the housemates are getting on under the all-seeing eye of Big Brother, featuring the latest tasks, games, arguments, laughs, diary-room visits and bedroom chit-chat. Narrated by Marcus Bentley.

10.00 TV's 50 Greatest Magic Tricks. A countdown of illusions that have stood the test of time on the small screen, featuring Penn and Teller, Derren Brown, David Blaine, Paul Daniels and Dynamo. (R)

12.50 Lip Sync Battle. (R) **1.15** SuperCasino. **3.10** GPs: Behind Closed Doors. (R) **4.00** Now That's Funny! (R) **4.50** Wildlife SOS. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Five Children and It **8.15** Legends of the Deep: Giant Squid **9.00** War of Words: Soldier-Poets of the Somme **10.30** Hidden Histories: WWI's Forgotten Photographs **11.30** Timeshift: How Britain Won the Space Race – The Story of Bernard Lovell and Jodrell Bank **12.30** Wonders of the Universe **1.30** Horizon: How You Really Make Decisions **2.30** Rise of the Continents **3.30** Close

ITV2
11.15 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **11.50** You've Been Framed! **12.15** Love Island **12.50 Film:** Baby Mama (2008) **1.50** FYI Daily **1.55 Film:** Baby Mama (2008) **2.45 Film:** Small Soldiers (1998) **3.45** FYI Daily **3.50 Film:** Small Soldiers (1998) **5.00 Film:** Scooby-Doo (2002) **6.00** FYI Daily **6.05 Film:** Scooby-Doo (2002) **6.45 Film:** Sweet Home Alabama (2002) **7.45** FYI Daily **7.50 Film:** Sweet Home Alabama (2002) **9.00** Love Island **10.00** Family Guy **11.00** American Dad! **12.30** The Cleveland Show **2.20** Caroline Flack: The Hot Desk **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV3
11.50 A Touch of Frost **1.50** Agatha Christie's Marple **3.45 Film:** Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory (1971) **4.45** FYI Daily **4.50 Film:** Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory (1971) **5.55** Wycliffe **7.00** Midsomer Murders **9.00** The Bletchley Circle **10.00** Lewis **12.00** Wire in the Blood **2.00** A Touch of Frost **3.35** May the Best House Win **5.20** On the Buses **5.45** ITV3 Nightscreen

ITV4
1.00 Tour de France Highlights **2.00** Tour de France Live. **4.30** Pawn Stars **6.00** The Wine Show **7.00** Tour de France Highlights **8.00** River Monsters **9.10 Film:** The Fugitive (1993) **10.10** FYI Daily **10.15 Film:** The Fugitive (1993) **11.50 Film:** Dawn of the Dead (2004) **12.50** FYI Daily **12.55 Film:** Dawn of the Dead (2004) **2.00** Tour de France Highlights **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4
12.30 Made in Chelsea: The Aftermath **1.35** Couples Come Dine with Me **3.35** The Goldbergs **4.30** The Big Bang Theory **9.00 Film:** The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn – Part 2 (2012) **11.10** Gogglebox **12.15** The Inbetweeners **1.25** Rude Tube **2.25** Gogglebox **3.20** Hollyoaks

Film4
1.00 St Trinian's (2007) **3.00** Spy Kids 4: All the Time in the World (2011) **4.40** Rango (2011) **6.50** The Other Boleyn Girl (2008) **9.00** Inglourious Basterds (2009) **12.05** Dog Soldiers (2002)

QKM LTD.

Quality Kitchen Makeovers Ltd

UNBEATABLE QUALITY AND VALUE FROM THE BESPOKE SPECIALISTS

Don't Settle for Less
● Kitchens ● Bedrooms
● Bathrooms ● Extensions
● Loft Conversions
● Home Offices
From a door or worktop replacement to an extension

What our customers say...
"Wonderful kitchen, I have already recommended you and would not hesitate to recommend QKM to anyone."
"Can't believe the transformation from start to finish, totally professional."

HOMEOWNERS...
Looking to Sell?
Enhance the prospects of selling your property - stunning results for a minimum outlay
Just Moved In?
Let us help to transform your property into a dream home
Decided to Stay?
Fall in love again with your home - Revamp your kitchen, bedroom or bathroom and allow us to show your home's true potential
Bring us your dream pictures and we will bring them to life

At QKM
We are dedicated to offering our customers the finest service within the home improvement market
THE GUILD OF MASTER CRAFTSMEN
Membership No A120074
'We have customers who would be more than happy to show you the excellent standard of work'

Appliances: Neff, Bosch, Rangemaster, Belling, Hotpoint, Stoves and many more
Franke Sinks 50 Year Guarantee

The Largest Working LUCE Kitchen in the Midlands at our Netherton Showroom

All types of Flooring supplied and Wet Wall Solutions for Bathrooms
Range of Kitchens, Bedrooms and Bathrooms to suit all budgets

Did you know 80% of our customers are retired?
60% plus of all our appointments are referrals or existing customers requiring further work.
Find out why we are trusted for yourself
BOOK YOUR NO OBLIGATION QUOTE TODAY ON 01384 232413

Head Office & Showroom
149 Cinder Bank, Netherton, Dudley, DY2 9BL
01384 232413
Open Mon - Fri 9am - 5.30pm,
Thursdays 9am - 7pm
Saturdays 10am - 4pm

Stourport Showroom
33 High Street, Stourport-on-Seven DY13 8BE
01299 877718
Open Tue, Wed & Sat 10.00am - 5.30pm
Thursday 10.00am - 7.00pm
Stourport closed Monday & Friday

Customer satisfaction guaranteed.
WE WILL NOT LET YOU DOWN

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

www.qualitykitchenmakeoversltd.co.uk
FIVE MINUTES FROM MERRY HILL

PICK OF THE WEEK

FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
Missing at 17, Channel 5, 3.15pm
An adopted teenager runs away from home to find her biological parents, and meets a man who offers to help her. However, after she is rejected by her birth mother, he instead lures her into assisting his criminal activities. Drama, starring Ayla Kell. (2013)

TUESDAY
The Deadly Dress: Garage Sale Mystery 4, Channel 5, 3.15pm
Amateur sleuth Jennifer Shannon finds an old wedding dress and investigates the disappearance of the groom on his big day decades before. Crime drama, starring Lori Loughlin and Cheryl Ladd. (2015)

WEDNESDAY
Miss March, Channel 4, 1.45am
A man awakens from a coma to find his formerly chaste high-school girlfriend has grown up to become a Playboy centrefold, and enlists the aid of his lecherous best friend in winning her back. Comedy, directed by and starring Zach Cregger and Trevor Moore. With Raquel Alessi, Molly Stanton and Hugh Hefner as himself. (2009)

Miss March, Wednesday, Channel 4, 1.45am

THURSDAY
I Dream of Murder, Channel 5, 3.20pm
A psychiatrist decides to investigate when one of her patients is murdered, placing her career and marriage in jeopardy as she becomes obsessed with the case. As the truth comes to light, she is forced to confront her own inner demons. Mystery, starring Jolene Blalock, Martin Cummins and Carrie Colak. (2006)

FRIDAY
The Sentinel, BBC1, 11.35pm
A secret service agent is convinced a member of a neo-Nazi militant group has infiltrated the White House. But his attempt to investigate comes to a halt when he is framed for murder and blackmailed over his affair with the president's wife. As he battles to clear his name, his former protege is given the task of bringing him to justice. Spy thriller, starring Michael Douglas, Kiefer Sutherland, Eva Longoria and Kim Basinger. (2006)

Steph decides to get into exotic lingerie

Following the success of Sex and the City and Fifty Shades of Grey, some people may think that Ann Summers parties now seem rather tame.

However, Sophie Rundle, who stars in ITV's new drama series Brief Encounters as Steph, a woman who starts a new career selling exotic lingerie and marital aids in 1980s Sheffield, admits that handling the vintage props left her a little flustered.

She says: "I thought after about five minutes it wouldn't be funny anymore. But it just never stopped being funny, particularly when I'm sat in a room with (co-star) Penelope Wilton, who is one of my heroes. I pulled one out of the box and she said, 'And what does that one with the pump do, Sophie?'

"What do you say to that? I went very red in the face, mumbled something and ran away."

Let's hope her character is made of sterner stuff, as Steph is one of four women – the others are Pauline (Wilton), Nita (Angela Griffin) and Dawn (Sharon Rooney) – whose lives look set to change due to their involvement in a saucy new business venture.

For part-time cleaner Steph, selling knickers initially seems like a way to make some much-needed cash, but it expands her horizons in ways she could never have expected.

Sophie, whose previous credits include Peaky Blinders and Happy Valley, explains: "Steph has never been expected to have a career. She got married straight out of school and then had a child. It's the kind of marriage where the husband expects to be the breadwinner and the wife will stay at home.

"When we first meet her, Steph is quite shy, retiring and sweet. But when they come up against money problems, she discovers the job as a party planner and another world is opened up to her. Through the episodes you see her develop and blossom into this amazing woman. Her confidence changes and she becomes independent.

"Steph blossoms into another version of herself. So she starts off in one place and finishes somewhere very different."

However, in this first episode, not everyone approves of Steph's new money-making venture – her husband Terry (Karl Davies) refuses to entertain the idea, but she goes ahead anyway.

Meanwhile, Steph's boss Pauline is torn between being horrified at the thought of having one of the parties at her home and wanting to open up her social circle beyond her husband, while hairdresser Dawn has to hold the fort when the hostesses receive some unexpected guests.

Sophie hopes the characters aren't the only ones who are going to be inspired by Brief Encounters. "We've had enough of women being in the background and just having supporting parts. I think people want to see dramas about women. Or at least with women having just as many main parts as men.

"There's been a huge change and I think it will continue. Those stories are just waiting to be told. And thank God we're telling them.

Sophie Rundlestars in Brief Encounters, Monday, ITV, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
Forces of Nature with Brian Cox
BBC1, 9pm
New series. The physicist goes on a grand tour of the planet to explain how the Earth's beauty is created by just a handful of forces, beginning by examining the diversity of shapes in the natural world. Off the coast of Canada, Brian explains how massive icebergs that surge down from Greenland and into shipping lanes of the Atlantic emerge due to a powerful yet infinitesimal force of nature.

TUESDAY
Love Your Garden
ITV, 8pm
Six years ago, Nottingham youngster Tilly Sawford was so badly scalded in a domestic accident that she has been a regular hospital patient since then. Despite the pain and disfigurement of her body, she has remained an upbeat little girl, while her two brothers and two sisters all help with her care. The whole family, including mum Emma and dad Kyle are in for a treat. Though their current back yard is a building site, staff at Tilly's local hospital asked Love Your Garden team if they could create a new, safe garden for all of them to enjoy. In spite of some horrendous weather, Alan Titchmarsh and his associates transform it into the ultimate family garden.

Life Stripped Bare
Channel 4, 9pm
A life-changing experiment for members of three households, who, for three weeks, have all of their possessions taken away, even their clothes, and every single item in their home put into storage. They must not buy or borrow anything, apart from food and drink, and carry on with their daily routine, while choosing to get back one item a day for 21 days. Those taking part include East London fashion designer Heidi, who owns 31 bikinis and lives through social media, and Tom, Andrew and Georgia in Cardiff, who own over 2,000 items and are dedicated socialisers.

WEDNESDAY
MOTD: Euro 2016 Live
BBC1, 7.30pm
The first semi-final (Kick-off 8.00pm). Coverage of the opening last-four match, which takes place at the Stade de Lyon. On paper, this game may feature two so-called weaker countries compared with tomorrow's second semi. The likes of holders Spain, host nation France, Germany, Italy and England all ended up on the other side of the draw following the group games, with Switzerland, Poland, Wales and Croatia among the sides to land in this half. However, whichever teams reach this stage of the tournament will know they have got here on merit, and will be confident of taking part in the showpiece game on Sunday.

Celebrity First Dates, Friday, Channel 4, 9pm

THURSDAY
On Benefits: Life on the Dole
Channel 5, 8pm
Trying to make ends meet is hard enough, but would you really want a film crew following you around as well? Possibly not, though it seems there's no shortage of willing subjects ready to make their plight known in series such as this. The fifth channel's obsession with characters living on the breadline shows little sign of abating as the latest episode proves. Among the folks trying to get by are Lisa, who spent seven years in prison for cocaine smuggling.

FRIDAY
Celebrity MasterChef
BBC1, 8.30pm
The contenders are challenged to create a main course and a pudding, using rabbit for the main, chocolate for the pudding, and a range of fruit and vegetables, herbs and spices. They are then sent out on their first mass catering task, making lunch for staff at Virgin Atlantic's training centre.

Celebrity First Dates
Channel 4, 9pm
Bagging a date with a celebrity sounds like the stuff of some people's dreams – or at least the plot of rom-com Notting Hill. But how will four unsuspecting members of the public react in this special edition of the dating show as they turn up to find a famous face sitting opposite them? TV legend Esther Rantzen, who has found life lonely since the death of her husband 15 years ago, admits that her formidable reputation can scare men off, but she's hoping to find someone who won't, in her words, ërun a mile'. Meanwhile, Richard Blackwood is out to prove he's nothing like the bad boy he plays on EastEnders, Paralympian Will Bayley plans to say it with flowers, and the Only Way is Essex's Jess Wright, who has some experience of seeing her love life play out on screen, hopes to find her Mr Right.

CHRONICLE

Are you in the picture?

Have you appeared in the Chronicle?

Order your photos now
Go to: photosforsale.expressandstar.com
Or call: 01902 319444 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm)

We offer: photos | canvas prints | mugs
mousemats | keyrings | coasters
jigsaws | fridge magnets
iPad wallpaper | MMS messages

Only selected prints available and copyright restrictions apply. Photos available to view and order online the next working day after publication. Allow 28 days for delivery.

USE YOUR LOFT!

Bison Loft Ladders

Access your loft safely and easily with Bison loft stairs. A "gas" strut mechanism requiring just fingertip control makes opening and closing your loft stairs exceptionally easy.

- Fully manufactured by us in the Midlands
- Free Survey
- 'Bison' loft ladders, only available from us
- Full 4 year parts & labour guarantee
- The only product available with a safety handle in the loft
- Fitted in approx 2 hours (including making the opening larger)
- NEW: Now available in white no painting required*
- NEW: Now complete with "comfort" feet to protect carpets and wooden floors.

NEW: Long Safety Side Handles*
*at extra cost

We also fit loft flooring, lighting and roof windows.
All major credit cards accepted

theloftstairscompany

The Loft Stairs Company, Unit 60, Atcham Industrial Estate, Shrewsbury SY4 4UG
Visit our website www.theloftstairscompany.co.uk
Freephone 0800 389 1281
or mobile friendly 01743 761499

CLASSIFIEDS WORK!!!

"For over 30 years we have used Express & Star classified adverts which has resulted in many happy caravan owners!" Hillandale Caravans

"I average around 10 phone calls a week from customers as a direct result of my Classified Advertising. I am very happy with my response levels." Mr Causer.

WHAT OUR CUSTOMERS SAY!...

"We have been advertising in the Express & Star and Chronicles for over 20 years and consider it a key part of our business with the regular flow of calls, which our advertising generates." Black Country Homes

"Wednesfield Carpentry & Gates are really pleased with their classified contract advertising response." John - Wednesfield Carpentry & Gates.

"I am extremely happy with the Service get from my Express & Star Classified Sales Representative and I would recommend them to anyone!" Michael - Portway Fencing

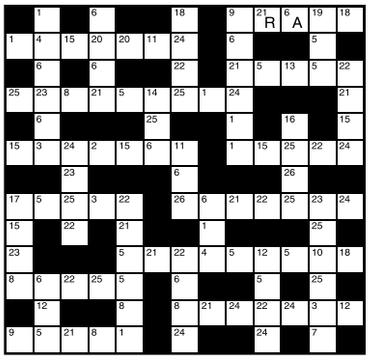
Call 01902 319 191

Brought to you by Express & Star

BRAIN GYM No.384

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



1	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6 A	19
7	20
8	21 R
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
J	Y	M	I	S	F	U	N	W	E	P	B	K
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
R	Z	Q	T	A	O	X	D	V	G	L	C	H

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

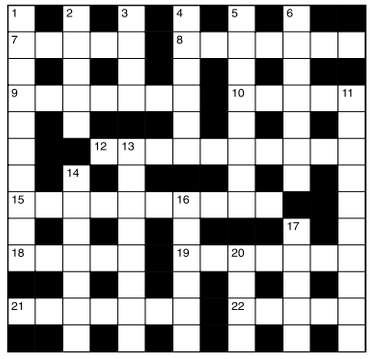
Cryptic Clues:

Across

7. Knowing there's a fight to get a point (5)
8. In such agreement cash, too, is involved (7)
9. Stumble on crude oil in N. Africa (7)
10. Not a subject needed by most schoolchildren (5)
12. An animal that could become richer soon (10)
15. Priest very disposed to waywardness (10)
18. Turn away a sick man who returned (5)
19. Or a part, perhaps, in proportion (3,4)
21. Continue with the ironing? (5,2)
22. It stands to reason (5)

Down

1. Appears wet, perhaps, but may be salvaged (5,5)
2. It supports a climbing animal without comment (5)
3. Note from me to the doctor (4)
4. Battle suit (6)
5. Bob saves the traveller's time (5,3)
6. They take no end of towels (7)
11. The opposition of different ancestries (10)
13. Take notice of the French ship being inattentive (8)
14. Support the strange seer (7)
16. Some politicians up in exalted positions are lethargic (6)
17. Scope of anger (5)
20. Well-produced paintings? (4)



Quick Clues:

Across

7. Unconcealed (5)
8. Voter (7)
9. Go before (7)
10. Nimble (5)
12. Colony (10)
15. Irritate greatly (10)
18. S. American dance (5)
19. Caretaker (7)
21. Stern (7)
22. Chooses (5)

Down

1. Self-satisfied (10)
2. Discourage (5)
3. Inflamed eye-lid (4)
4. Up-to-date (6)
5. Deteriorating (8)
6. Hits (7)
11. Undertaking (10)
13. In a job (8)
14. Serious (7)
16. Din (6)
17. Adhere (5)
20. Absorbed (4)

Sudoku

				4		8		
	1		5			6		
	9	4		1	2		5	
3						4	6	
		9	3		5	1		7
	5	1			4			2
	8		4				1	
1	4	6			9		3	
		2		8				

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

3	6	5	9	1	7	4	8	2
8	1	7	3	2	4	5	6	9
9	2	4	5	6	8	3	7	1
4	7	2	6	3	5	1	9	8
5	8	9	7	4	1	2	3	6
6	3	1	2	8	9	7	4	5
2	5	8	4	9	3	6	1	7
7	9	3	1	5	6	8	2	4
1	4	6	8	7	2	9	5	3

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Panoramic; 8 Arm; 9 Fair warning; 11 Retires; 12 Excel; 13 Malady; 15 Design; 17 Norma; 18 Article; 20 Blind alleys; 22 Nil; 23 Stringent. Down: 2 Aga; 3 Rower; 4 Morose; 5 Chinese; 6 Magic circle; 7 Ambulance; 10 Intolerable; 11 Remanding; 14 Diaries; 16 Ladder; 19 Talon; 21 Yen. QUICK - Across: 1 Undecided; 8 Rob; 9 Redoubtable; 11 Intense; 12 Child; 13 Marshy; 15 Benign; 17 Roost; 18 Profane; 20 Achievement; 22 Out; 23 Termagant. Down: 2 Nee; 3 Churn; 4 Dither; 5 Debacle; 6 Precipitate; 7 Abundance; 10 Deteriorate; 11 Immersion; 14 Hatchet; 16 Appear; 19 Opera; 21 Nun.

Thinking space

Quiz

1. Which tycoon pledged £1m to keep Canova's The Three Graces in Britain?
2. By what name do we know the fish Hippoglossus hippoglossus?
3. In which country does the heir apparent bear the title of Prince of Asturias?
4. Who played the title role in the film The Madness of King George?
5. Which city is known in its own language as Baile Atha Cliath?
6. By which nickname is Venezuelan-born Ilich Ramirez Sanchez better known?
7. Which acid is the active chemical constituent of aspirin?
8. What is the second highest mountain in the world?
9. Who wrote the book Absolute Beginners in 1959?
10. Which colourful European allegedly gave Greenland its name?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Pictures element; 2 Cumbria; 3 Michelle Pfeiffer; 4 Reindeer; 5 Peace; 6 Tasmanian devil; 7 Berkeley Castle; 8 Twenty four; 9 Bridge; 10 Proton.

Niner: FORMALITY

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

5642 gives a colour,
821492 gives a second colour,
341362 gives a third colour.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Capital's SPECIALS
BRAND NEW EX. DISPLAY VAST SELECTION
ZANUSSI Auto Low Energy Fast Wash 7kg drum £239
Hotpoint American Style From £449 Choice of black/stainless
FROST FREE EX DEMO
White Knight Tumble Dryer £89
Oven Fold Door Oven & Grill £399 as seen on Bake Off
Hotpoint Ceramic Double Oven Cooker £349
Vast selection of Cookers, Gas & Electric From £189
Kingswinford Centre DY6 9JL 01384 271812 Open Mon-Sat 9.00 - 5.00
Castle Street Dudley DY1 1LA 01384 234620 Open Mon-Sat 9.00 - 5.00
Salop Street Wolverhampton Centre WV3 0RX 01902 429060
Macrome Road Claregate WV6 9HD 01902 752764

EURONICS
CAPITAL APPLIANCE CENTRE LTD
Offer of the Week
Service only your local independent electrical retailer can provide
WE'RE SWITCHED ON
BOSCH
60cm Fridge Freezer Model No: KGN34VW24G •Exclusive •Fridge: 191 Litres/6.8 CuFt Frost Free •Freezer: 127 Litres/4.5 CuFt No Frost •Dimensions: H185xW60xD65cm £389.99
12 Place Settings Dishwasher Model No: SMS50T02GB •Exclusive •5 Programmes •Aquamix Glass Protection System •Dimensions: H84.5xW60xD60cm £269.00
Fast Wash 1200 Spin Model No: WAB28162G • Quick Wash 45 mins • Dimensions: H85xW60xD59cm £269.00
Dudley: 3 Castle Street, Dudley, DY1 1LA Tel: 01384 234620
Kingswinford: The Rotunda, Townsend Place, Kingswinford DY6 9JL Tel: 01384 271812
Salop street: Wolverhampton Market, WV3 0RX Tel: 01902 429060
Head Office: Macrome Road, Claregate, Wolverhampton, WV6 9HD Tel: 01902 752764
www.capitalappliances.co.uk /CapitalApplianceCentre
*T&C's apply. Selected models only. Sold as an agent for Euronics Limited. All rights reserved. All offers are subject to availability while stocks last. Delivery & Installation charges may apply. Prices correct at time of print but can be subject to change. See in store for full details. Copyright Euronics 2015.

There is one small job that you have been meaning to do for years -
Make Your Will
Only £85.00 (no VAT to pay)
Per person for couples, Mirror Wills.
Single Wills £90.00 (no VAT to pay)
A home visit at a convenient time
For information and appointment call
0845 678 7010
Mobile: 07771 992717
Wills, Trusts, Lasting Powers of Attorney, Will Storage, Estate Planning and Guardianship Trusts
Members of the Society of Will Writers
Goodwills Legal Services Ltd
www.goodwillsmidlands.co.uk

Halesowen Fireplaces
AT THE HEART OF YOUR HOME
Complete Fireplace Packages from £499
(including fire)
STORAGE HEATERS NOW IN STOCK
For a range of Gas and Electric Fires and Surrounds visit our showroom (opposite Tyre City on Long Lane)
Telephone 0121 559 9985
Like us on facebook.
Unit 14, Long Lane Trading Estate, Long Lane, Halesowen B62 9LD
www.halesowenfireplaces.co.uk

thetickets
PLAN YOUR NIGHTS OUT WITH THE EXPRESS & STAR TICKET SUPPLEMENT EVERY FRIDAY
TO ADVERTISE IN THE TICKET CALL OUR EXPERIENCED ENTERTAINMENTS TEAM ON 01902 319874 OR EMAIL THETICKET@EXPRESSANDSTAR.CO.UK
An Express & Star supplement
Express & Star

Stourbridge Chronicle Thursday, June 30, 2016

The poolside dining area also hosted entertainment in the evenings

The site's main adventure playground area

Children can play in the pool while the parents lounge

Venturing out – Guéthary Beach is well worth a visit

Site where families can Basque in sea, sun and entertainment

By Maria Bagnall

THE aroma of freshly baked bread signals the start of new mornings in France and collecting this warm and doughy delight became a daily routine my family and I wholeheartedly adopted while visiting the Basque Coast.

Imagine allowing a six-year-old the freedom to ride his bike to the onsite patisserie, practise his language skills and bring home freshly baked pastries for everyone.

That's exactly how each morning began on our glorious Eurocamp holiday at Le Ruisseau Campsite set in 18 hectares and just five miles from historic Biarritz.

Varying in size, guests can chose from off the beaten track sites to full on fun resorts at 180 destinations across Europe at top destinations like Lake Garda, the Costa Verde in Spain and Switzerland. Being a traffic-free site allowed the children to whizz around on bikes and play in safety.

After a hearty breakfast delivered proudly by our eldest, on the decked terrace of our Espirit, three-bedroomed mobile home, most days were spent around the site enjoying the fantastic facilities.

Accommodation was perfectly functional and included three bedrooms, a kitchen diner with gas hob and oven, WC and shower room. For our needs the mobile home was perfectly adequate but if you are looking for a little more luxury the higher spec models may be more suitable.

Daily, there are various kids' clubs and activities geared to suit children up to the age of 12 and there is an endless list of evening entertainment to boot. Blessed with glorious sunshine meant the children played in the pools. Parents could get a break, too, as loungers are carefully placed allowing full view of the swimming areas.

Off site, the beaches around the coast offer some of the best waves and the clearest waters. There are six to choose from and one of the longest stretches of coastline of all the Côte Basque towns await – all with lifeguards during the high seasons.

For us the beach at Guéthary was ideal for families, with rock pools teeming crabs and fish of every colour and the waters are such a beautiful deep blue, you can spend hours just gazing out to sea.

Being so near, San Sebastain in Spain at the heart of Basque country was another worthy day trip with its famous La Concah beach, considered one of the best city beaches in Europe. Be under no illusions, Le Ruisseau Campsite is a long journey even by adult standards and took a lot of planning – an eight-hour drive from the north coast. But if you are happy to make do without the car, it is recommended to hop on a flight to Biarritz and take a short transfer (7km) to the park.

Keen to explore the area we drove and crossing the Channel couldn't have been easier. We opted for Brittany Ferries, Portsmouth fast-craft ferry crossing to Cherbourg which takes just three hours with daily departures. By the time we had waved goodbye to the ships at Portsmouth, had brunch and wondered around the ship we had motored across the Channel and arrived at Cherborg in record time.

To break up the journey we took an overnight break in at Puy de Fou, a historical and waward-winning theme park in Les Epesses in the heart of the Vendée region.

Star Reader Travel

Hand picked holidays with you in mind

For more information or for brochures contact the Express & Star Promotions Team
Telephone: **01902 319999**
Opening times: **Mon to Fri, 9am-5pm**
Online **www.starreadertravel.com**

London Theatre Breaks

London is the natural home of theatre and the musical is king in the capital's world-famous West End. British musicals that prove a runaway success here, often go on to triumph on Broadway and around the globe. The winning combination of engaging writing, captivating stage design and commanding performance has enabled London theatres to achieve box office smashes time and time again.

Omega Holidays offer a superb portfolio of theatre breaks, managing the whole show package which includes travel, either by coach or rail, four-star accommodation and various price bands for each show. Make your own way breaks are also available to book.

Price includes:

- ✓ Return coach or rail travel
- ✓ One/two nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- ✓ Evening meal (with selected packages)
- ✓ Theatre ticket
- ✓ Free time in London
- ✓ Services of a tour driver
- ✓ Single rooms subject to availability (supplement applies)

Prices are per person (unless otherwise stated). Please read brochures/web pages for full description plus terms and conditions. Please note Star Reader Travel are unable to take bookings. Dates subject to availability. Coach pick up points offered: Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

**The "from" price and price bands vary for each show — see brochure/web page for details.*

Rail inclusive breaks – Two days

Saturday Night Theatre from £169.95

Catch the Theatre Express and enjoy a super two-day weekend break in the capital.

There's a selection of London hotels to choose from (supplements may apply) and rail travel is standard class with the option to upgrade. Departs Saturday from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton, returning on the Sunday.

The ticket is for a Saturday evening performance.

Rail inclusive breaks – Three days

Theatre Showstopper from £239.95

This popular theatre package to the West End departs from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton on the Friday returning on Sunday.

Standard class travel is included with the option to upgrade, plus two nights stay at a four-star London hotel (supplements may apply).

Includes a top priced ticket for a Friday evening performance.

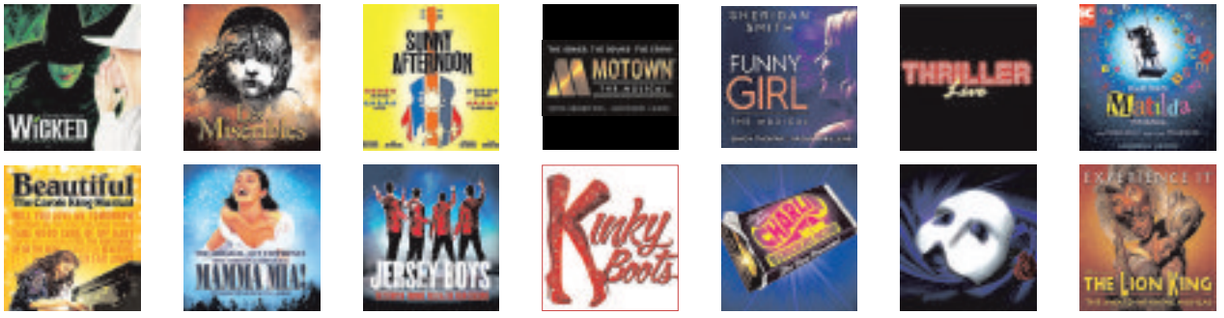
Coach inclusive breaks – Two days

Saturday Night from £149.95

Theatre Weekend with Dinner from £159.95

For the Theatre Weekend with Dinner option, see the matinee performance before heading to the hotel for an evening meal. The Saturday Night option includes a ticket for the evening performance (meal not included).

Both breaks include a standard priced theatre ticket and the option to upgrade plus an overnight stay in a four-star outer London hotel.



DAYS: 2 OR 3 DEPARTS: VARIOUS DATES

Organised by Omega Holidays (ABTA V4782)

TSI engine is impressive

By John Griffiths

For years car makers have been striving for new technological ways to produce cleaner, more economical cars that are better for your pocket and for the planet.

Diesel cars are, for a variety of reasons, losing some of their gloss, electric cars are getting better but still have a way to go and hydrogen fuel cells could be years away.

Hybrids are one way of saving fuel without sacrificing too much by way of performance, but there's another way – one being developed by Ford, Suzuki, Renault Volkswagen and others.

The method is to take a small capacity petrol engine and to turbocharge it, forcing more air into thecylinder to give you more bang for your buck (as they say across the Atlantic) for better performance, but saving on the sort of fuel consumption you'd get from a bigger, normally aspirated engine.

For Volkswagen (and its Audi, Skoda and SEAT associates) this is the acclaimed TSI engine, which combines direct petrol injection with turbocharging.

It's latest incarnation is the three cylinder, 1.0 litre unit fitted in the seventh generation Golf: the first time VW has used petrol power for a car with its 'Bluemotion economy tag.

There's a useful comparison to make here as this 999cc engine is, essentially, the same as the non- turbo unit used in the company's little Up! City car.

In the Up! it produces 60PS of power: the new Golf's TSI boasts 115PS. Thanks to the turbo the latter also has 200Nm of torque, double that of the Up!

But it doesn't stop there: the heavier Golf, with an official test average of 65.7mpg and a tax-busting 99g/km of CO2 emissions, is actually slightly leaner and greener than its city slicker cousin. And, due to its economy, the Golf Bluemotion has a theoretical range of 900 miles between fill-ups.

It's not entirely down to the engine, of course, as a Bluemotion model is a little lighter than a standard (and especially a diesel) Golf and has a number of aerodynamic tweaks to the body work to help it slip through the air more cleanly.

The new model, in Match trim, isn't exactly cheap at £20,765 but VW must be confident that the savings on fuel and tax will be enough to persuade buyers it's a reasonable option.

Build quality and driving dynamics are typically Golf: there's little more that needs to be said.

What is impressive is just how well this mere 999cc manages to hustle a car of this size along. It is lively: it's 0 to 62mph time is 9.7 seconds.

But you wouldn't expect those choosing an economy car to be regularly competing in the traffic lights grand prix: do that too often and your mpg figures will soon tumble.

It's all about how the Golf Bluemotion wafts along in normal road driving, the extra torque endowing it with the relaxed, refined character of a car with another cylinder and many more cubes under the bonnet.

The slick six-speed manual gearbox also helps, for example if you plan a quick overtake.

It's a well-equipped car, too, with all the expected electronic wizardry to keep you safe and enhance its roadholding and handling. Electronic stability control, traction control and an electronic differential lock are standard. ABS and hydraulic brake assist are supplemented by pre-crash occupant protection and post collision braking systems, as well as seven airbags.

What is impressive is just how well this mere 999cc manages to hustle a car of this size along

A radar operated active cruise control system is designed to keep you a safe distance from vehicles on front.

Inside, you get air conditioning, electric windows and mirrors, heated front seats, automatic headlights and wipers and heated front seats, as well of an array of storage solutions around the cabin.

The central touchscreen controls the satnav, audio and connectivity systems, and comes with a three year subscription of Car-Net which gives the driver online access to a range of information from traffic problems to weather and where you might find a parking space.

The Bluemotion also comes with VW's standard three years/60,000 miles warranty and comes with a reasonable 14E insurance rating.

The impressive TSI engine is at the heart of this new family hatchback, creating a car of recognised quality which mean significant savings over many of its competitors.

Profile of A8 range rises with S8 plus

By John Griffiths

Audi already has long-established supercar manufacturers (and owners) looking over their shoulders with its highly competitive – in terms of price and performance – R8.

Now it has launched an assault on those who thought they had the rarefied market for film star cars and captains of industry all sewn up with the ultimate expression of the executive express.

Costing just over £96,000 the S8 plus won't have much in the way of mass market appeal, but among wealthier petrol heads its relative rarity and stunning vital statistics will guarantee boardroom bragging rights. It's powered by a 4.0 litre V8 bi-turbo turning out a whopping 605PS of power and 750Nm of torque, enough to power it from 0 to 62mph in 3.8 seconds and on to a limited top speed of 155mph (although there is the option of having that limit upped to 189mph).

The engine may sound familiar (for obvious reasons) to Bentley enthusiasts, but with its lighter aluminium body the S8 is even quicker off the mark than the more expensive Flying Spur, while the lower weight brings handling benefits, too. The Audi, of course, also has the benefit of the motorsport-derived quattro four wheel drive system to help get all that power down smoothly and safely.

But Bentley could be considered a slightly different niche, the real target for the S8 plus is the similarly-engined (and priced) Mercedes-Benz AMG GT which many consider the king of the sector – until now. While the S8 plus offers much of the sheer power and driving thrills of the iconic R8, it's a very different car. It's a roomy, luxurious five seater executive car with a large boot and the driving experience can be summed up in one word: sublime. There's a real upmarket feel to the leather-equipped cabin, with its digital instruments, carbon fibre and stainless steel trim and switchgear.

The engine has such an enormous surfeit of power that it hardly raises its voice above a whisper, especially with the nine speed tiptronic gearbox which is exceptionally responsive and keeps the revs to within a low, narrow band in normal driving. All that 750 Newtonmetres of maximum torque comes in at just 2,500rpm, but to be honest you'll rarely, if ever, experience that on a public road. If you do you'll be shoved back in your seat like a jet passenger on takeoff.

Progress

The real trick with the S8 plus is to keep one eye on the speedo. It's progress in the 30 to 60 and 40 to 70 overtaking bands is so very quick, so very smooth, that the unwary could soon find themselves well into the penalty zone.

It's like a five-star hotel on wheels, but under your right foot is the performance potential of a supercar,

The air suspension is a perfect set-up for this Jekyll and Hyde car. Progress over even less than perfect surfaces feels billiard-table smooth, yet it isn't executive-car soggy so that the car changes direction rapidly and without any discernible body roll. The massive disc brakes lurking behind the 21-inch wheels are also well matched to the car's potential. The Tiptronic automatic transmission does have a sport option, allowing more manual gearchanges – but to be perfectly honest with power to spare why would you ever need to?

The centre console is dominated by the circular mouse used to perform a range of function on the centre colour control screen, such as connectivity, the premium audio, and of course drive mode.

You have a range of choices including, for example, dynamic and comfort, but the standard setting seems to provide the perfect balance between limousine comfort and agility along twisty b-roads.

This screen and mouse system keeps the panel relatively simplle, stylish and uncluttered while giving the driver full control over a wide range of technological features you'd expect in a premium car. Three position climate control can dial in their own climatic preferences as they relax in the high quality leather seating.

The S8 plus's ability to carry three extra passengers and a hefty 512 litres of luggage is one of the practical reasons why you'd buy such a car with your head when your heart might be yearning for a hot two-seater supercar. But with this car, the car-minded business leader doesn't have to compromise – he can have his cake and eat it.

If this flagship of Audi saloon's is a bit rich for you, there's also the standard S8 which uses the same engine and running gear but in a different state of tune. It turns out 520PS (instead of 605 – which only knocks three tenths of a second off its 0 to 62mph time. But it's £16,000 less to buy, it uses a little less fuel (officially 30.1mpg compared to 28.2 for the plus) and so its CO_2 rating is down from 231 to 216g/km, which means slightly lower taxes, too.

The new S8 plus is, arguably, the ultimate executive express and even if it is likely to be something of a niche seller it will certainly raise Audi's profile once again, and certainly that of the rest of the A8 range – the German company's rather underrated flagship saloon.

OakGarage.co.uk

Oak Garage your local RAC Approved Dealer.

Our Low Mileage Selection

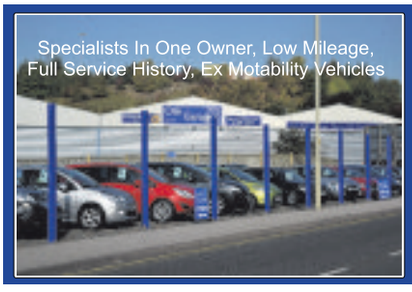
62	Focus 1.6 Zetec Auto Est Blue Only 5000 Miles	£8,995
63	208 1.0 Access+ Brown Only 7000 Miles	£6,995
10	Fiat Doblo 1.4 Active Silver W/Chair Access 8000 Miles	£5,795
64	Kia Picanto 1.0 VR7 Red Only 9000 Miles	£6,795
62	VW Polo 1.4 Match 3dr Auto Black Only 10000 Miles	£8,495
13	Note 1.6 N-Tec+ Auto Red Only 11000 Miles	£7,995
64	Suzuki SX4 S Cross 1.6 SZ3 Red Only 11000 Miles	£9,995
62	Hyundai 120 1.2 Active Grey Only 13000 Miles	£6,295
13	Megane 1.6 Expression Blue Only 13000 Miles	£6,995
64	Note 1.2 Acenta Premium Blue Only 15000 Miles	£8,495
12	C4 1.6 VTR+ Auto Blue Only 15000 Miles	£7,495
13	Fiesta 1.6 Zetec Auto Silver Only 17000 Miles	£8,995
13	Meriva 1.4 Exclusiv Auto Orange Only 17000 Miles	£7,995
64	Qashqai 1.5 DCI Tekna White Only 17000 Miles	£17,495
63	C3 1.4 HDI VTR+ EGS Blue Only 18000 Miles	£7,495
13	C-Max 1.6 TDCI Titanium Bronze Only 18000 Miles	£9,995
Citroen		
13	C3 Picasso 1.6 VTR+ EGS Red 31k	£7,495
62	C4 Picasso 1.6 HDI Edition Silver 20k	£8,995
13	C4 G Picas 1.6 HDI Platinum Red 33k	£9,995
11	C4 G Picas 1.6 HDI VTR+ EGS Red 46k	£7,995
06	Picasso 1.6 Exclusive Grey 63k	£2,495
Ford		
57	Fiesta 1.25 Zetec Climate 3dr Black	£2,495
64	Focus 1.0 Zetec Turbo Silver 21k	£10,495
13	Focus 1.6 Zetec Silver 27k	£8,995
13	Grand C-Max 1.6 TDCI Zetec White 27k	£10,495
Renault		
11	Megane 1.5 DCI Expression Blue 27k	£6,495
13	Scenic 1.5 DCI Dyn Tomtom Red 20k	£9,495
13	Grand Scenic 1.5 DCI Dynam Tomtom Red 29k	£10,995
11	Grand Modus 1.5 DCI Dynamique Red 84k	£3,795
Seat		
62	Seat Ibiza 1.2 SE TSI Est Auto Blue 29k	£6,795
13	Seat Ibiza 1.2 TSI FR Speed Blue 59k	£6,795
62	Seat Leon 1.6 TDI CR SE Copa White 45k	£8,295
Vauxhall		
59	Astra 1.4 Life White 92k	£2,995
13	Astra GTC 2.0 CDTI SRi Coupe Red 19k	£9,995
60	Meriva 1.3 CDTI Exclusiv Grey 45k	£5,495
62	Meriva 1.7 CDTI Exc Auto Brown 34k	£6,495
56	Zafira 1.6 Life Beige 71k	£2,995
13	Zafira 1.6 Exclusiv Blue 25k	£7,795
12	Antara 2.2 CDTI Exc Auto Black 28k	£10,995
Others		
13	Chevrolet Orlando 1.8 LT Black 29k	£8,495
12	Chevrolet Orlando 2.0 VCDI LS White 38k	£7,995
12	Mercedes A160 1.5 SE Classic Blue	£5,995
62	Nissan Juke 1.5 DCI Acenta Black 29k	£9,795
11	Peugeot RCZ 1.6 THP GT Coupe Grey 74k	£8,995
62	Volvo XC 60 R Design AWD White 24k	£22,995

Sales Line Open Every Day Till 9pm
Call Steve 07747633329

12 MONTHS COMPLIMENTARY BREAKDOWN COVER

All Retail Cars include a 3 month RAC Warranty with 12 month Breakdown and Recovery

Each Vehicle Goes Through a 82 Point Safety Check



Another 100 Low Mileage Cars Available Soon See Details At:
www.oakgarage.co.uk
Unit 1 , Sterling Park, Brierley Hill DY5 1TB
Tel: 01384 75097
Opening Times: Mon-Thu: 9-6, Fri-Sat: 9-5, Sun: 11-4

Classified Ads

Buy Local, **Sell** Local

funeral directors

WOMBOURNE FUNERAL SERVICES
Funeral Directors
Funerals from £1,350 plus Disbursments
Pre-paid plans. 24hr call-out
Private Chapels of Rest
Wombourne & Kinver Memorials
Monumental Masons Memorials from £450
Wombourne 01902 892635
Perton 01902 756830
Kinver 01384 873499
Wall Heath 01384 274222
wombournefuneralservices.co.uk

ClassifiedAds
BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL

A TRADITION OF TRUST

We are very pleased with the service offered by the Express & Star. Our business and advertising needs are always well met.

Wombourne Funeral Services.

TO DISCUSS YOUR ADVERTISING NEEDS PLEASE CALL
01902 319 191
AND SPEAK TO ONE OF OUR DEDICATED SALES TEAM.
Brought to you by Express & Star

J.T. BROOKES
Independent family run Funeral Directors
24 hour service
Brierley Hill 01384 77098
Kingswinford 01384 296683
Hagley 01562 888041
www.nedowning.co.uk

lost & found

LOST—Gold Rolls Royce key fob, sentimental value. Reward for return. 07884 220081.

religious notices

christadelphian

SAYINGS OF JESUS 'I am the way, the truth and the life'. July 3, at 6pm, The Community Centre, High Street, Kingswinford. Or write to The Dawn (ref:KCE) 5 Station Road, Carlton, Notts. NG4 3AT for free information pack or ring 01384 886544 for recorded message.

1 Family

elderly & disabled

ELECTRIC RECLINER CHAIR, small Sherborne Malvern, verona wine colour, 2 years guarantee, £400. 01902 426138.

ET4 SPORT SCOOTER, one year old, in good condition, new batteries fitted June 14, 2016, £350 or very near offer. 07580 574503.

MOBILITY SCOOTER Very good condition. four wheeler. £295. 07508 311029.

WREKIN STAIRLIFTS reconditioned lifts from £799. New available. 01952 405397/07897 273617

2 Leisure Time

boats & water sports

CANOES 1 long fast single fibre glass, 4.15m, £90, 1 rubberised canvas 3.9m £30. Offers accepted. 01902 897846.

car boot sales

ASHWOOD CAR BOOT Sundays from 6am. By Roberts Farm Shop on A449, DY6 0AA. 07710 644908. www.ashwoodcarboot.co.uk

caravans wanted

WANTED
CARAVAN WANTED
Cash on pick up asap.
Caravan wanted
Call me on 07717 090817.

caravans / motorhomes

We Want Your Motorhome
Finance Cleared
Fast Secure Payment
Top Prices Paid
Please Call AEG on 01384 848439 or Lee Jinks on 07740 895448
www.aegmotorhomes.co.uk

COACHMAM PASTICHE. 460-2
2007. Excellent condition. 2 berth, motor-mover, 2 awnings, groundsheets. All extras - Ready to go.
£6,495. o.n.o.
Telephone 07860 462019.

COMPASS LYNX 2 berth, good condition, many extras. £950. 01902 862472.

STATIC CARAVAN
With decking, on private plot, quiet site in Mid Wales, No age limit, 2 fishing pools, 20 minutes to nearest coast, ground rent included for 2016.
£5,995 ono.
07555 303350.

holidays

self catering holidays

BURNHAM-ON-SEA
Self Catering Holiday Apartments
Disabled Facilities
Pet Friendly
01278 794111
www.GoSomerset.co.uk

BUDE CORNWALL 2 BED CHALET On 4* woodland site, pool & free entertainment. School holidays £390pw, September £140 pw. 07974 226 928.

what's on

antique fairs

ANTIQUE/ COLLECTORS FAIR
CORNBOW HALL, HAGLEY STREET, HALESOWEN, B63 3AT (NEXT TO WILKOS).
FRIDAY 8TH JULY
8.00AM - 4PM
07800 718 069 / 07783 680 627
www.blackcountryfairs.co.uk

ANTIQUE/COLLECTORS FAIR Kinver Comm Centre, Sun July 3rd (also Bromsgrove every Fri) limited stalls available. EST 1979 Waverley. Next Book Fair Sunday 17th July. Home made refreshments available (all venues). 0121 550 4123.

markets

STOURBRIDGE CAR BOOT
At Stourbridge Rugby Club
Open every Wednesday from 18th May
07957 399964

3 Home & Services

household appliances

FRIDGE FREEZER in excellent condition, £85 can deliver. Telephone 07493 919511.

items wanted

ALL GOLD 9CT UP TO £300 PER OUNCE
CASH PAID TODAY
A GENUINE LADY BUYER
All Beswick • Doulton • Worcester Moorcroft •Lladro • Old coins
• WATCHES • COSTUME JEWELLERY
• Diamonds and Gold Coins • Clocks • Paintings
• ALL SILVER • All Oriental Items
Pre'47 silver coins All war medals etc
ANYTHING OLD & INTERESTING
HOUSE CLEARANCES
01922 495066 or 07971 783206

A ABSOLUTELY BEST price given for single items or houses cleared. Antique, old, reproduction. Call: 01384 482155 or 07802 475693.

A BEST CASH PRICE

FOR ALL RAILWAY COLLECTIONS
Any gauge or age
Hornby / Bachmann / Bowmans / Roundhouse / Graham / Farsh / any live steam. Also Die Cast, Corgi, Dinky, Spot On.
01384 836219/07891 713547.
thetrainmaster67@hotmail.com

A BEST CASH PRICE PAID

ALL TOYS, CARS, LORRIES WANTED.
All conditions
Dinky *Corgi* *Spot-on*
Britains and Airfix
*Wilesco Steam Engines * Star Wars Figures *
*Scalextric Pre 1970's.
* Tri-ang Minic motorways, cars or complete sets.*
*Old Enamel Advertising Signs * Railway collections*
Pre 1970 Annuals wanted, Beano, Dandy, Rupert the Bear, etc
Plus Omega watches.
01902 745598 / 07984 159571

ALL BRASS / COPPER ornaments/ brassware, all descriptions, miners lamps, old medals, dinky, corgi toys and railways. 01902 745598.

FOOTBALL PROGRAMMES
Tickets and other sports memorabilia.
Top prices paid for the right item.
Call Paul on 01543 251743.

MAMOD STEAM engines/trains wanted all conditions, railway collections, Dinky, Corgi vehicles, any condition. 01902 745598.

READERS ARE ADVISED to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.

in your garden

ATCO ELECTRIC LAWNMOWER, steel roller, grassbox, 2 years old, little used, £80. 01902 573176.

HUSQVARNA 46IN Ride on Mower, 2016 model, (unused), £2,395. Husqvarna 22in Lawnmower, (unused), £400. Call 01743 718939

specialists at your service

aerials

AA DIGITAL AERIALS
1 AERIAL INTO 2 ROOMS £90
WE WILL BEAT ANY WRITTEN QUOTE
Work Guaranteed
01902 858191
01384 429166
01543 439095
01922 716029
07833 738857
VISA MasterCard Checktrade.com

alarms/security

PREMIER ALARMS
Supplied and Fitted £195
Servicing and Repairs
12 Months Warranty
All areas covered
All quotes beaten!
Call: 0121 601 9791

carpet & upholstery cleaning

A CLASS CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING
OAP discount. Recession Prices.
Unbeatable Value: Rooms cleaned from £10
Call Paul 07870 341089

A BRILL CLEAN for your Carpets & Suite. O.A.P Discounts. Best Prices. Call Steve 07496 922324.

double glazing

ATS DOUBLE GLAZING UPVC back doors from £299, front doors from £389 fitted. 01922 442720.

electrical services

STEVE JONES ELECTRICAL Rewires/sockets/fuse boards etc. All domestic and commercial work. 07786 858977/01902 846167.

external rendering/ insulation

EXTERIOR RENDERING, full houses, patching, textured/smooth. 40yrs exp. Stuart 01902 324727.

fencing

PORTWAY FENCING
SPECIAL OFFER
10 bays of quality fencing, concrete posts, gravel boards **£695**
HEAVY DUTY PANELS SUPPLIED AND FITTED
0121 531 5250 / 07866 137 656
Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm
Sat 8am - 12noon
83 Portway Rd, W'bury
DELIVERY AVAILABLE
www.portwayfencing.co.uk

ClassifiedAds
BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL
PORTWAY FENCING

IT WORKS FOR ME
"I am extremely happy with the service I get from my Express & Star Classified Sales Representative and I would recommend them to anyone!"
Michael - Portway Fencing.
FOR GREAT BUSINESS RESULTS CALL
01902 319 191
Brought to you by Express & Star

Tidy Fencing
Professional Fence Fitters & Gardeners
Established 2001
We are fully insured
NPTC qualified and all work comes with a 12 month warranty.
SPECIAL RATES
available to senior citizens.
No job too small.
BIG SPRING DISCOUNT NOW AVAILABLE

Shed refelts now available!
01384 620 072
07908 478 962

gardening services

GARDENS TIDIED from £5 per garden. 25 years experience. Call 01902 713106 / 07813 184086.

GARDENS TIDIED from £5 per garden. 25 years experience. Call 01902 713106 / 07813 184086.

gas fitting

READERS ARE ADVISED
To check that anyone carrying out any Gas work is Gas Safe Registered.
It is an offence under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 to carry out gas work in the UK without being on the Gas Safe Register.

house clearances

A ABSOLUTE BEST CASH PRICE PAID
for house clearances and bereavements. Shops, Schools and Commercial clearances
Also removals undertaken.
All rubbish removed. Carriers licence held
07852 172641 / 07710 360327

ABSOLUTELY ANYTHING CLEARED
FULL OR PART GARAGES / SHEDS, RUBBISH REMOVED WASTE LICENCE
01384 486456 / 07711661135

painters / decorators

HODGETTS DECORATORS. All aspects of commercial and domestic work. C & G qualified. Free quotes. Call 01902 324128.

LOVE 2 WALLPAPER
Reliable & Friendly, Professional
Female Painter & Decorators
Wallpaper is my speciality, competitive prices.
For the Perfect Finish with minimum hassle.
Plastering & Coving Work Undertaken
01384 287577 or 07812 484194
www.love-2-wallpaper.co.uk

plastering

M & S PLASTERING & BUILDING SERVICES. For All Your Home and Garden Improvements. Over 30 Years Experience. Call Mark or Sara on 07741 770897.

plumbing & heating

DAVIES & SON BUILDERS
Over 35 years experience in the industry
All aspects of building work including: Extensions, loft conversions, roofing, driveways & landscaping.
Discounts offered.
01902 579592 / 07837 994465

removals

A & M CHEAP REMOVALS
Local
Careful Firm
Full or Part loads
Call Don: 07749 941319

A1 KINGSWINFORD REMOVALS & HOUSE CLEARANCES
Single items,
Full houses, Offices etc
Recession rates, FREE QUOTES
We take the stress away
40 years experience
07966 281957

A MAN WITH A VAN Single items, flat/house removals/clearances, local/nationwide. Call Steve 0121 422 2999 or 07815 043724

Stourbridge Removals

20+ YEARS EXP
Home, Office, Part loads, landlord clean & repair service. House clearances.
Quality service guaranteed lowest rates
Call John - 07802 876 876
office - 01562 640 640

CALL DEAN NOW: For all your Removal needs. 07429 453209/ 01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

CALL IAN. Man with a large van. No job too small, no distance too far. 07973 628534, 01902 891535.

CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN, Removals, clearances, large/small. 01902 741546, 07899 635852.

roofing

T L Fowkes Roofing & Building Solutions
FREE QUOTATIONS ON REQUEST
call or email
07896 334 946
t.fowkes@yahoo.co.uk
Experts in all roofing and building aspects Including:
• Flat roofing • GRP roofing • Slate and tile roofing • uPVC and all major building works

MG ROOFING Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters. Call 01902 238989 / 07580 465449.

skip hire

BIG JOHN MOVES RUBBISH! No Skips, we load, fast friendly service, 25 Lister Rd, Dudley DY2 8JR, Est 35 years, 01384 232359.

t.v. / home entertainment

service

AERIAL & TV SPECIALISTS: FREE Estimates on any TV Repairs, Plasma, LCD, 3D, LED, Projection. All areas covered 8 till late. 7 days. Digital aerials, Sky installation. Wall mounts / TV setups. 07850 330251.

4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required Passport information.

guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

AIR RIFLES, SHOT GUNS, Antique guns, taxidermy- big bore guns, traps etc wanted. 07968 624202

pets corner

GREYHOUNDS MAKE WONDERFUL PETS
All neutered, innoculated and microchipped.
Call 01922 412212 or
www.rgtwolverhampton.co.uk
RGT Wolverhampton
@RGTWolves

NOTICE TO READERS
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.
Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

AFFECTIONATE Brother and Sister Cats, 6 years old, neutered, looking for home must be together, due to owners death. 07925 194970.

BABY RABBITS Lion Head Cross, 7 weeks old, £30 each. 01384 211073.

CANARIES FOR SALE Satinettes, Lizards and Gold Dimorphics. From £15 each. 07711 570870.

JEFFRY'S DOG WALKING / sitting service. W-ton. Cat feeding / toileting. OAP rates. 07974 913703

KITTENS, seven weeks old, litter trained, flea and wormed, £40. Loving homes only. 01902 782005.

THREE KITTENS, 1 male, 2 female, black and white, 8 weeks old, £30 each. 01902 218944.

TOY POODLE DOG, white, 11½ months old, pedigree, micro-chipped, house trained, small, £650. 01902 261168.

TOY POODLE X Shih Tzu puppies, 2 girls £650 each 2 boys £600 each, taking deposits. 07734 208600.

TWO YOUNG MALE Chinchillas, with cage and toys, genuine reason for sale, £150. 01902 372859.

YORKIE PUPS two boys, £350 each two girls £375, ready July 8. Puppy pack included. 07710 555932.

Express & Star
THIS SPACE COULD BE PROMOTING YOUR BUSINESS
Every day our customers get a great response from Classified Advertising.
So could you by calling our friendly experienced Sales Advisors on 01902 319191.

5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

6 Property

accommodation to let

NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

CASTLECROFT, WV3. Clean 1 bed flat, new kitchen, CH, DG. £106pw. 01902 340073 or 07770 660636.

DUDLEY Furnished One bed flat, £87p/w, suit mature DSS only. 07550 002549.

PENFIELD W-TON 1 bed self contained flat. Dss ok. No deposit required. Call / text 07542 657703.

TWO BED flat, Whitmore Reans, HB accepted, available immediately, £295pcm. Call 07553 731240.

mobile homes

FOR SALE MOBILE HOME.
The Harrows Mobile Home Park, Coven.
Beautiful gardens, own car park space.
Please call for more details.
01902 798548.

FOR SALE PARK HOME
Homeland Park, Ball Lane, Coven Heath, Wolverhampton, WV10 7EZ.
Excellent condition.
Details 07983 431475.

properties wanted

EVERY TIME!

WE PAY 100% of purchase price

BLACK COUNTRY HOMES

We buy any house

- FAMILY BUSINESS
- FAST FRIENDLY SERVICE
- COMPLETION TO SUIT YOU
- NO FEES/FREE SOLICITORS

WE ALSO BUY LAND

30 yrs

0800 999 999 6

or 01902 628047 24/7 www.black-countryhomes.co.uk

Home Cash Buyer

Sell today, sign today, complete when u wish

£££ RENT BACK OPTIONS £££

Houses / Land Required

Ring Paul 24/7 Local 07870 341 089

Sandwell area: Call 0121 696 4154

Walsall & Cannock area: Call 01922 432049

Wolverhampton: Call 01902 489901

www.homecashbuyer.co.uk

A LOCAL BUYER pays full market value and more for your property. Call Rick 07729 297901

overseas property

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

7 Jobs

building & construction

PAINTERS & DECORATORS. Time served tradespeople. Direct or subcontract. Long term work. Call 01562 751197 / 07836 557894.

employment wanted

EXPERIENCED BRICKLAYER seeks employment, all types of brickwork. 07534 767256.

8 Motoring

cars over £1500

CITROEN C3 PICASSO, 1.4 petrol, first registered September 2013, 1 owner from new, red metallic paint, only 6,500 miles, full dealer service history, genuine sale,
£7,750.
01384 292048.

FIAT BRAVO 120J MULTIJET DIESEL 1.6 top of the range, 08 reg., 6 speed, full MoT, Excellent condition £2,300 07789 893224.

FORD FIESTA 1.2, 12 plate, silver, 3 door, 12 months MoT, very good condition, cheap to run. £3,650 ono. 07860 655421.

FORD FIESTA 2010, diesel, 3-dr, red, 54,000 miles, MoT, good condition, £20 road tax. £2,850 07828 676711.

FORD FUSION SE+ Automatic 2008, 52,000 Miles, black, abs, electric windows, full MoT, air con, £1,999 07879 403302.

JAGUAR XF PREMIUM LUXURY V6
Auto, diesel, 2009, 3 owners, low mileage, fsh, new MoT, very good condition.
£10,250 ono.
Telephone 01902 737671.

MERCEDES 02, C200 Auto, beautiful car, excellent condition, must sell. £1,750. 01746 218519 / 07977 481574.

MINI COOPER
2006, 47,000 miles, racing green, fsh, MoT, part leather interior, twin sunroof, 2 owners from new, excellent condition.
£2,995 ono.
01384 826019.

NISSAN XTRAIL 2.2, SVE, 53 reg, diesel, MoT February 17, £2,100 ono. 07415 189836.

PEUGEOT PARTNER
12 months MoT, EW, 05 plate, for disabled use, immaculate condition, 1400cc, 61,000 miles, windows all round, alarm.
£1,700 ono.
01384 457219. 07923 191378.

RANGE ROVER 4.6 LITRE 1996, one owner, lovely condition. £1,750 ono. 01922 479743.

SEAT IBIZA 1.2 Reference Sport, 2007, one owner from new, 20k, very good condition, just serviced, MoT, £2,800 o.n.o 07785 384166.

TOYOTA MR2 CONVERTIBLE Roadster, 2001, 101,188 miles, MoT July 2017, £1,650. Telephone 07796 628908.

VAUXHALL ADAM 1.2 VVTi Glam, 3dr, 2013, one lady owner, panoramic sunroof, alloys, fsh, full MoT, £5,995. Call 07970 504111.

VOLKSWAGEN POLO MODA

1.2 Sporty Special Edition, 2011, metallic jet black, alloys, full service history, MoT, 5 doors, low tax. Bluetooth CD, ideal under 25's.

£5,499 ono.

07779 332203.

VW BEETLE CONVERTIBLE 05 reg, 85,000 miles, private plate, MoT, excellent condition. £1,595. 07939 092596.

cars under £1500

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED
that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

CITROEN C3 06, 1.1L Desire, 113,000 miles, silver, MoT July. £950 ono. 07930 374986.

DAIHATSU YRV RADICAL 2 1.3, 5-dr, full MoT, 03 reg, red, face off CD, alarmed, 79,000miles, good, clean, reliable. £450 ono. 01902 405195.

FIAT PUNTO ACTIVE 1.2, 5 door, 2004 reg, light blue, only 68k, MoT. Excellent condition, only £695. Telephone 07399 675758.

FORD FOCUS estate diesel. 2006, 127,500 miles, white, EM, long MoT, no advisories, very good condition, £950 ono. 01902 724609.

FORD KA STYLE 1.3, Red, 2002, MoT'd till October, very good condition, lady owner, 47,000 miles. £450. 07757 157823. W-ton.

LAND ROVER Freelander 1.8 petrol, 6 months MoT, 2005, black, hard top, good condition, £1,000 ono. 01902 590279 or 07510 373906.

NISSAN MICRA Tempest, 3-dr hactchback, petrol, 1.0, 13 months MoT, £550. 07828 678711.

RENAULT KANGOO, 53 plate, long MoT, 95k, £1,100 ono. 01384 864058 or 07947 950882.

RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE. 2007, 1.5 Diesel, 1 owner, 37,000 miles. Full MoT. Very good condition. £1,495. o.n.o. 01902 651268.

ROVER 25, 2002, 72k, fsh, MoT, full leather, PAS, excellent condition inside/out, £650ono 07817 029177.

ROVER 45 IMPRESSION 1.4, 11 mnths MoT, 64k, 5dr, 2002, excellent condition, must be seen £450 ono 01384 352130 / 07901 125383.

SMART FOR TWO PURE AUTO
2004, black, good condition for year, 10 months MoT, major service done on June 1, health reason for sale. **£500 ono.**
07415 837186 / 01902 683742.

VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4, 2000, MoT, clean, tidy, spares or repair, £200. 07813 932880.

VAUXHALL ASTRA ESTATE1999 reg, MoT November. £350 ono. 01902 784244.

VAUXHALL ASTRA new shape, 54 Reg., 12 months MoT, 5Dr, EW, EM, AC, alloys, good condition, £650 o.n.o. 07754 557861.

VW BEETLE51 reg, 2.0, Auto, 6 months MoT, S/R, multi CD, black alloys, new cam belt, good condition. £1,200 ono. 07917 370054.

VW POLO S55
1200cc, plum red, 05 reg, 3 door, 74k, 05-08 model, 10 months MoT, very reliable, very good condition.
£1,450 ono.
Telephone 07973 378867 or 01902 620596.

classic cars

WANTED, CLASSIC Cars. Private cash buyer.Instant cash settlement. Any age. Any condition. 01630 652993 or 07773 462797.

commercial vehicles

CITROEN BERLINGO van, white, 06 plate 80,000 miles, good runner, clean van, never let you down. £1,400 ono. 07966 226638.

VW TRANSPORTER T5, 1900 auto, 06, lwb, blue, ideal for camper conversion, £8,000 ono. 07931 687829.

driving tuition

L Homer's
10 Hours £89! Five Hours £50!
2 Hours £20! All Areas Covered
ADI/PDI REQUIRED. Gift vouchers available for £10
07432 458100 / 01562 870050
01384 234954 / 0121 5640090
01902 580065 www.homersdrivingschool.co.uk

motorbikes

HONDA VTR FIRESTORM
2001, red, 15,200 miles, 10 months MoT, very good condition, service history, art cans, belly pan, hugger, 1st to see/hear will buy.
£1,950 ono.
07941 691826.

SPIDI back / chest protector, Optimate 12 volt battery charger, Haynes manual for NTV 650, sell the lot for £50. 01902 341487.

SUZUKI SE650S

54 reg, Immaculate condition, 5,400 miles, 650cc V Trim fuel injection, new MoT.

Great first big bike.

£2,550.

07881 946919.

scrap vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

MCB
TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL SCRAP CARS, VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS
Tel: 01902 408176
1000's of parts available at all times
MONMORE RD. WV1 2TZ

A BETTER PRICE
for scrap or damaged cars and commercials. Spares for sale.
NINE LOCKS VEHICLE DISMANTLERS LTD
Brierley Hill 01384 76566 or 70553. Evenings 75397. DY5 3JZ.

vehicles wanted

A1 AUTOS WANTED
CARS, VANS, 4x4s, SCRAP, MoT FAILURES, ANY CONDITION £50-£10,000
WE BUY QUALITY USED CARS
07527 303 336
(24/7, any area) T&C Apply

alan reed cars
Used cars wanted for cash
Top prices paid. HP settled.
Buyer could call.
01562 711083 / 07831 245313

CROWN MOTORS guarantee best price for your unwanted cars/vans. 07903 549849, 01902 597035.

spares & accessories

clutches / brakes / gearboxes

A CLUTCH CHANGE MOBILE
30 yrs experience
ALL AREAS COVERED
Call Bob
01384 251328 or 07972 169554 anytime
For Example:
Citroen C1, C2, C3
Hyundai 110
Toyota Yaris
Clios & Micras
Ring for quotes on others!

9 Local Information

public & legal notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES
For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to
Marie Hogg on 01902 713146
or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk
(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

JULIET ELAINE ROUND (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of Netherton Green Residential and Nursing Home Bowling Green Road Netherton Dudley West Midlands DY2 9LY previously of 15 Borough Crescent Stourbridge West Midlands DY8 3UT, who died on 19/03/2016, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 09/09/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
TALBOTS LAW LIMITED
63 Market Street Stourbridge
West Midlands DY8 1AQ T475528

KENNETH HENRY GERMAINE (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 54 Alwen Street Stourbridge West Midlands DY8 5YP, who died on 18/04/2016, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned on or before 30/08/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
NORTHWOOD BANKS & CO
1600 Coventry Road Yardley
Birmingham B26 1AL T475555

MARTIN PRYCE DAVIES (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 4 Bridgnorth Road Stourton Stourbridge West Midlands DY7 6RW, who died on 08/01/2016, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 09/09/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
CLARKE WILLMOTT LLP
138 Edmund Street
Birmingham B3 2ES T474192

10 Personals

personal

GENTLEMAN 5FT 5
Aged 75, wishes to meet Lady for Friendship possible Relationship 50 - 75. Photo appreciated and returned.
Box Number P20403 , Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

GENUINE ATTRACTIVE SLIM MAN 53
GSOH, car owner, would like to meet genuine lady 40-58 for evenings, days out and friendship.
Box Number P20407 , Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

LADY 60
Wishes to meet Gentleman, I have a young outlook, enjoy travel, cinema, concerts, DIY and cooking, non smoker for Friendship.
Photo appreciated and returned.
Sedgley area or radius of 5 miles.
Box Number P20404 , Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

PROFESSIONAL MALE 60
With young outlook, considered attractive, 5ft 11, slim / medium build who enjoys the country, eating out, cosy nights in and many other varied interests. Looking for female 50 - 59 non smoker, slim / medium build, attractive with a GSOH who also enjoys most things in life. If you think that's you please get in touch.
Stourbridge / Wombourne area preferred.
Box Number P20405 , Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

TALL, LEAN, FIT 68 YEAR OLD MALE
Rough diamond, seeks polish from intelligent attractive younger lady.
Box Number P20401 , Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

sports clubs

BRIERLEY HILL BULLETS
Charter Standard Club Est 1983.
Looking for playing for the following ages.
Adult team contact Richard Semper 07981 268779.
Also looking for Managers and Coaches for junior teams and also new teams.
Contact Tony Duncan 07977 308183 or Keith Sharman 07896 666589.

BRIERLEY HILL BULLETS
Charter Standard Club Est 1983.
Looking for playing for the following ages.
Mini kickers Contact Lee Slater 07432 565974.
U9's Lee Slater 07432 565974 or Paul Tarr 07806 894442.
U10's contact Mark Goodyear 07802 768514.
U11's contact Tim Smith 07847 253889.
U13's contact Chris Coombes 07806 810679.

WOLVERHAMPTON FOOTBALL COMBINATION
(Saturday afternoons)
Applications are now being accepted for
New Teams
for season 16 / 17, open age 16 years plus.
Contact the Secretary E. Yardley.
01902 753125
or 07805 455602.

general

ADULT BURIAL PLOT, located in area O at Danescourt Cemetery, Wolverhampton. £2,000 includes transfer deed. 0121 709 0457.

BUY LOCAL SELL LOCAL

01902 317878

ClassifiedAds

Star Reader Travel

For more information or for brochures contact the Express & Star Promotions Team
Telephone: 01902 319999
Opening times: Mon to Fri, 9am-5pm
Online: www.starreadertravel.com

London Theatre

Omega Holidays offer a superb portfolio of theatre breaks in London, managing the whole show package which includes travel, either by coach or rail, four-star accommodation and various price bands for each show. Self-drive breaks are also available to book.

Rail inclusive breaks – Two or three days

Saturday Night Theatre from £169.95

Enjoy a super two-day weekend break in the capital. There's a selection of London hotels to choose from (supplements may apply) and rail travel is standard class with the option to upgrade. Departs Saturday from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton, returning on the Sunday with plenty of free time in London.

The ticket is for a Saturday evening performance.

Theatre Showstopper from £239.95

This popular theatre package, departs from Birmingham New Street, Shrewsbury, Stafford or Wolverhampton on the Friday returning on the Sunday.

Standard class travel is included with the option to upgrade, plus two nights stay at a four-star London hotel of your choice (hotel supplements may apply). Includes a top priced ticket for a Friday evening performance.

Coach inclusive breaks – Two days

Saturday Night from £149.95

Theatre Weekend with Dinner from £159.95

For the Theatre Weekend with Dinner option, see the matinee performance before heading to the hotel for an evening meal. The Saturday Night option includes a ticket for the show to see an evening performance (meal not included). Both breaks include a standard priced theatre ticket with the option to upgrade, overnight stay in a four-star outer London hotel.

Price includes:
- ✓ Return coach or rail travel
- ✓ One or two nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- ✓ Evening meal (with certain packages)
- ✓ Theatre ticket
- ✓ Free time in London
- ✓ Services of a tour driver
- ✓ Single rooms subject to availability (supplement applies)

Organised by Omega Holidays (ABTA V4782)

Prices are per person (unless otherwise stated). Please read brochures/web pages for full description plus terms and conditions. Please note Star Reader Travel are unable to take bookings. Dates subject to availability. Coach pick up points offered: Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

**The "from" price and price bands vary for each show — see brochure/web page for details.*

DAYS: 2 OR 3 DEPARTS: VARIOUS DATES

Local Specialists

Builders

C ETHERIDGE
BUILDING SERVICES
- Extensions
- Alterations
- Roofing
- Landscaping
- Block paving
- General property maintenance.

Over 35yrs experience

For a FREE quote call Chris
01384 635627
07989 738732

Our Specialist Section offers you a wide range of local businesses and tradesman to deal with your needs and requirements.

Decorating

A.S.
Painter & Decorator
Interior & Exterior
FREE ESTIMATES
Cleanliness Assured
Call: 07730 477564

FREDEN DECOR
Do You Need A Plasterer, Painter or Decorator?
TELEPHONE FRED FOR A RELIABLE AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE
Fully insured
Free quotes and advice on:
07904 441412 - DAYTIME
01384 572371 - AFTER 6PM

Double Glazing

MISTY UNITS REPLACED
Buy Direct from the manufacturer. Est. 1999
Pilkington energiKare — energy efficient glazing

Reduce heat loss by up to 75%

Also upgrade your existing double glazed units to Pilkington Energikare, it will help to reduce the amount of heat lost through your windows by up to 75%, lock, handles, hinges.

WITH A 10 YEAR GUARANTEE AND FITTING SERVICE AVAILABLE

Delph Glazed Units
Unit 32 Delph Rd Ind Est (by the tank), Brierley Hill DY5 2UA
Visit our new website
www.delphglazedunits.co.uk
BSEN1279
Telephone: 01384 573 074

Misted Sealed Units?
Black Country Glazing
Contact US for a FREE quote!
Manufacturers & Installers of windows, doors & conservatories
'A' Rated Windows as Standard
10 YEAR GUARANTEE
Energy efficient windows that won't cost the earth
Station Street, Cradley Heath, B64 6AJ
Est 1987
01384 566100
www.blackcountryglazing.com
FENSA

Double Glazing

SCOTTS WINDOW AND DOOR REPAIRS
- Misty Units
- Broken Locks
- Door Repairs
- Patio Doors

20 YEARS EXPERIENCE
ALL WORK GUARANTEED
07973 84 84 38
0800 034 0344

Driveways

DISCOUNT DRIVEWAYS
Block Paving and Tarmac
Drives • Paths • Patios
Slabbing • Red Tarmac
Car Parks
5 Year Guarantee On All Work
Free Quotations and Advice
Tel: 01384 79900 • 07583 170190
www.discountdriveways.co.uk

ACE PAVING SERVICES LTD
Tarmacing • Concrete Imprint • Block Paving and Patios
Landscaping • Turfing • Fencing and Decking
Power Washing • 5 year guarantee
FREE estimate • 15 years experience • Fully insured
01384 847115 | 0121 7692193 | 07448031419
Web:wwwacepavingservices.co.uk
Email:acepavingservices@outlook.com
Cradley Enterprise Centre, Maypole Fields, Halesowen B63 2QB

Driveways & Patios

Trent Driveways & Patio Specialists
- FENCING
- TURFING
- LANDSCAPING
- BLOCK PAVING
- TARMACADAM
- DRAINAGE SYSTEMS
- AGGREGATES AND CHIPPINGS
- HIGH PRESSURE CLEANING

MINI DIGGER AND DRIVER HIRE SERVICE
FREE WRITTEN QUOTATION
Tel:01384 466 950
Mob: 07708 332 005
Checkatrade.com
www.trentlandscapes.co.uk

Cressage Paving
Specialists in:
Block Paving, Tarmacing, Landscaping, Gravelling, Patios, Forecourts, Fencing and Driveways
All Groundwork undertaken
FREE WRITTEN QUOTATION
Mini Digger & Driver available
Checkatrade.com
01384 944032
Mob: 07879 073702
www.cressage-group.co.uk

Electricians

R&D ELECTRICS
All Domestic Electrical work including Alarms
N.I.C.E.I.C. Registered
FREE QUOTES
Call Ron on:
07773 645854
or 01384 422182

MB electric
All domestic and commercial electrical works undertaken
Home rewiring from £800
For a high quality local service call :
01384 660398
07939 503905
mbelectric.co.uk

Electricians

BRADLEY ELECTRICAL & MAINTENANCE
Est 1987
All electrical work undertaken
Fully qualified & insured
Installation Condition Reports
No job too small
★ FREE ESTIMATES ★
Electrical Safety Register
Call Paul 01384 344589 or 07812 435833
www.bradleyelectrical.net

Fencing

Fencing & Gates
All Garden Work Undertaken
• Slabbing • Block Paving • Tree Felling
• Turfing • Garden Clearance
NO JOB TOO SMALL
Manufacturers of all Concrete Products eg. Concrete Posts, Gravel Boards
All work guaranteed Insurance work undertaken
Over 15 years experience (Public liability covered)
Call Steve on
01384 242891 or 07970 300586

Groundwork

Bishop & Son
- Digger and Driver Hire
- Experts in ground clearance
- Drives, drainage & footings

01384 732043
07736548877
Tommybishop@hotmail.co.uk

Gardening

ROWAN TREE & GARDEN SERVICES LTD
*Tree Surgeon Specialist *Stump Grinding/Root Removal
*Hedges Pruned/Shaped *Jungles Cleared/Full Landscapes
*Fencing *Turfing *Concreting *Driveways & Patios
*Plus Much More Call Now For a No Obligation Quotation
WWW.ROWANGROUP.CO.UK
01384 213644 or 07733 226568
AGE CONCERN & Local Authority Contractor, N.P.T.C. qualified, Public Liability Insurance (£5 million) All staff C.R.B. Certified
PART OF THE ROWAN GROUP OF COMPANIES

Gardening

LINDOPS LANDSCAPES
All Landscape Work Undertaken
No Job Too Small or Too Big
FREE QUOTATIONS
All aspects of Tree Surgery, Block Paving, Fencing, etc
Est. 25 Years
Ex. Botanical Gardener
0121-421 2858
07583 - 748872
10% OFF valid until 30th JUNE 2016

G&D JET WASH SERVICE
• Garden Tidying
• Gutter Cleaning from £15
• Rubbish Removal
FREE QUOTES
Telephone
07572 367349

Our Specialist Section offers you a wide range of local businesses and tradesman to deal with your needs and requirements.

Locksmiths

UPVC LOCK PROBLEMS?
Call Tony Lane
07540 380140 or 01384 354344

Property Maintenance

ROWAN PROPERTY MAINTENANCE LTD
★ Interior/Exterior Painting And Decorating
★ All Aspects Of Plastering And Rendering
★ Fascias, Soffits & Guttering ★ New Fibreglass Roofs
★ Roof Repairs & Re-pointing ★ Pressure washing
★ Plus Much More....
WWW.ROWANGROUP.CO.UK
01384 213644 or 07733 226568
AGE CONCERN & LOCAL AUTHORITY CONTRACTOR, CITY & GUILD QUALIFIED, PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE (£5 MILLION) ALL STAFF C.R.B. CERTIFIED
PART OF THE ROWAN GROUP OF COMPANIES

WE NAILED IT!

Classified Advertising Works!
To advertise your business call 01902 319 191

To advertise your business and reach more than 56,000 potential customers...

1 Call us on... 01384 399901
2 E-mail us at... sue.jones@expressandstar.co.uk
3 Post to... Sue Jones, Stourbridge Chronicle, 3 Market Street, Stourbridge DY8 1AB

Local Specialists

Plumbing & Heating

Plumb Serve

Plumbing & Heating SPECIALISTS

Exchange your Combi Boiler for an Ideal Vogue Boiler with a 10 year warranty and receive the following-
- Free Wireless Thermostat
- Free First Service
- Free Boilermag Filter!!!!!

Under Floor Heating
LPG Work
Taps, Toilets, Baths & Waste
Full Bathroom/En Suites Installed
Radiators Fitted/Removed
Cookers & Fires, Installed & Serviced
Boiler and Full Central Heating Systems
Installed and Serviced
Landlord Safety Checks

ideal

24hr call out Call us on
01384 621765 / 07513094763
Card payments accepted
Powered by Gas Serve (West Midlands LTD)

GAS safe

Roofing

M&M Fascias

Quality

• uPVC • Fascias • Soffits • Guttering • Tile Edging • Roofing

Also
CONCRETE GUTTERING

Specialist removal Replacing with Modern low maintenance Upvc Fascias and Soffits

All work guaranteed with HomePro Insurance

No Free Gimmicks
Family Business
Local References if required

Registered with HomePro
Membership No. 554518

Giving homeowners peace of mind
ALWAYS FREE ADVICE AND QUOTATION
Freephone 0800 799 9413
to speak to Mark
123 Amblecote Road, Brierley Hill, West Midlands DY5 2YD

KEN PERRY
Plumbing & Heating Engineer
Gas Fitting, Boiler Servicing and Immersion Heaters, Multi Point Water Heaters, Landlord's Gas Certificates, Boilers changed
Guild of Master Craftsmen
Gas Safe Registered
STOURBRIDGE 392284

P J LEE and SONS

Building and Roofing Specialists

All types of roofwork
- Gutters • Roof Tiles • Chimney Work
- Repointing • Slates Replaced • uPVC Fascias
- Verges • Ridge Tiles • Complete Roofs

FREE ESTIMATES
CALL TODAY
01384 423625 OR 07769 667 248

ELITE PLASTICS

• Fascias • Sofits • Dry Verge
• Pointing • Gutter Cleaning And Repair
Premium Products Expertly Fitted With Full Manufacture Guarantee.
For A Free Quote call
01384 468831 / 07985 575865
www.eliteplasticsupvc.co.uk

To advertise your business and reach more than 56,000 potential customers...

1 Call us on... 01384 399901
2 E-mail us at... sue.jones@expressandstar.co.uk
3 Post to... Sue Jones, Stourbridge Chronicle, 3 Market Street, Stourbridge DY8 1AB

Local Specialists

Buy and sell with ClassifiedAds

1 Visit our ClassifiedAds website
classifiedads.expressandstar.co.uk

2 Call our Classified sales team
on **01902 317 878**

3 Self Serve - Create your own advert in print and online - visit:
bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk

ClassifiedAds
BUY LOCAL, **SELL** LOCAL

Brought to you by **Express & Star**

Brilliant breaks on your doorstep

DON'T FORGET YOUR BUCKET AND SPADE

HOLIDAYS from £10* PP

Starts Saturday, July 2

Express & Star

*Prices are based on a minimum of four people (fewer than four can stay from a minimum price of £40, depending on date of break). Online booking fee of £3 applies as well as service and optional entertainment charges. Token/password collect promotion.

John Parrott on stage with snooker coach Andrew Highfield at Wednesfield Conservative Club

Jack Harris and Riley Parsons presented with their awards by the former world snooker champion

Junior champion Richard Haney collects his award

Parrott's flying visit to snooker presentation

FORMER world champion John Parrott pocketed more fans as he helped bring the curtain down on the Staffs and West Midlands Snooker League.

The popular ex-player was guest of honour at the league's annual awards night at Wednesfield Conservative Club.

And Parrott, who beat Jimmy White at The Crucible in 1991 to claim the world crown, proved a big hit.

The 52-year-old took part in a question and answer session with snooker coach Andrew Highfield, who helped organise the event, before dishing out awards and then treating 190 spectators to his impressive stand-up routine.

League match secretary Lee Thomson was delighted with the turnout and said the new-look format was well received.

Exhibition

"It was a very good night. We had 190 people there as opposed to 80 last year," said Thomson.

"We used to have a series of exhibition games and that has not really worked for the last three or four years. So we opted for a change of format with an after dinner speaker and it worked really well. John was brilliant and just what we needed.

"He did a question and answer session before handing out the various awards. Then he did his stand-up routine, telling tales about his career and his time on A Question of Sport.

"He also stuck around and did as many photographs and signed as many autographs as people wanted. He was very, very accommodating."

Parrott's appearance helped cap another successful campaign as the league enhanced its reputation as the best in the country. The new season will break off in September with 96 sides doing battle across six divisions. "We have a full complement of 96 teams again for next season including a new side from Stafford Constitutional, which is excellent news," added Thomson.

SPORTING FEATURE

By Nick Elwell

"We opted for a change of format with an after dinner speaker and it worked really well. John was brilliant."

"John actually said he doesn't know of a league as strong as ours anywhere else in the country.

"He paid tribute to the committee on the job they are doing to keep the league strong, because that's not the trend around the country. It's a hotbed of snooker around here. There isn't another league in the country with as many sides and the standard is very high as well."

That standard was emphasised with a record number of 34 century breaks during the season, easily more than any other league in the country.

Brandhall Labour A claimed the Division One title for the fifth consecutive year by virtue of a deciding frame triumph against Sedgley Ex-Service in their final game of the season. The top-flight action also saw a new best of 19 century breaks compiled, tour pro Mitchell Mann (Brandhall Labour A) topping the list with a superb 141.

Cannock Cons A will be in the top division next season after winning the Division Two title while Amery made it back-to-back promotions in lifting the Division Five crown. Bentley Moor marked their first year in the league by winning Division Six.

A new trophy was introduced in honour of one of the league's former players, Darren Crossley, who passed away last year. Junior champion Richard Haney of Wednesfield Cons was the inaugural winner.

Thomson said: "Darren was a popular player in the league and his former team-mates from Woodcross and SedgleyWMC clubbed together to provide a trophy. We will present that as a special achievement award each year in his honour."

Roll of honour – Division 1: Brandhall Labour A, runners-up Hotshots SC. Most wins: Richard Haney (Wednesfield Cons A) 26. Highest break: Mitchell Mann (Brandhall Labour A) 141.
Division 2: Cannock Cons A, promoted Forty Four Club A (runners-up) and Bilston BC A. Most wins: Daniel Eaton-Lees (Cannock Cons A) 26. Highest break: Daniel Eaton-Lees (Cannock Cons A) 111.
Division 3: Sedgley WMC C, promoted Golden Cue D (runners-up) and Bilston BC B. Most wins: Lee Bannister (Bilston BC C) 27. Highest break: Shawn Smith (Golden Cue D) 90.
Division 4:Windsor Transport B, promoted Sedgley Ex-Service C (runners-up) and Wednesfield RBL A. Most wins: Joe Hawkes (Sedgley Ex Service D) 26. Highest break: Joe Hawkes (Sedgley Ex-Service D) 61.
Division 5: Amery, promoted Golden Cue G (runners-up) and Wolverhampton Electric D. Most wins: Neil Drewett (Wolverhampton Electric D), Peter Robbins (Woodfield Social D) and Lee Boulton (Triangle) 23. Highest break: Peter Robbins (Woodfield Social D) 66.
Division 6: Bentley Moor, promoted Pennfields D (runners-up) and Shepwell Green B. Most wins: Paul Wakeman (Bushbury Grid C) 26. Highest break: Paul Wakeman (Bushbury Grid C) 54.
Challenge Cup: Hotshots SC, runners-up Sedgley Ex Service A.
Consolation Cup: Golden Cue SC H, runners-up Bushbury Grid C.
Individual Championship: Reanne Evans (Sedgley Ex Service), runner-up Darryn Walker (Pennfields).
Individual Plate: Paul Lloyd (Shifnal), runner-up Mick Brezwyn (Shifnal).
Individual Handicap: Rob Wharne (Stafford Institute), runner-up John Fallows (Shifnal).
3x2 Handicap: Sedgley Ex-Service, runners-up Hotshots SC.
Foursomes: Jack Harris & Riley Parsons (Landywood SC), runners-up Geoff Williams & Gary Miller (Brandhall Labour A).
Pairs Medley: Daniel Ward & Simon Hickman (Sedgley Ex Service), runners-up Peter Hyland & Dwyer Evans (Codsall Firs).
Secretaries: Tom Maddocks (Fordhouses CC), runner-up Robert Temple (Bushbury Grid B).
Grandmasters: Andy Evans (Landywood SC), runner-up Pat McVey (Woodfield Social). **Junior U21**: Rich Haney (Wednesfield Cons), runner-up Jack Harris (Landywood SC).

Sport

Ex-champ Parrott in top form at snooker league's presentation

Page 47

Heron now focused on job in hand

BOXER Luke Heron admits that his toughest opponent is himself.

The West Bromwich middleweight, whose real surname is Walker, has earned plenty of plaudits in his opening two fights as a pro but, after joining the paid ranks admits he has struggled at times with the discipline required to fulfil his undoubted potential.

The 22 year-old made his debut in October 2015, stopping fellow debutant Bryn Wain, before recording a points victory against Lewis Van Poetsch in December. However, after changing jobs and slipping out of the day-to-day training regime, Heron has not fought since.

Now fully-focused and back in the gym, Heron is set to enjoy a third pro outing on Black Country Boxing's 'Summer Scorcher' – sponsored by Grosvenor Casino Walsall – at Walsall Town Hall on July 9.

"After my second fight, looking back, I should have been straight back in the gym," he said. "That wasn't the case and then it was soon Christmas and in the New Year I started a new job. It was shift work so I struggled to get in the gym and, if I'm honest, just putting it off.

"The days roll into weeks and the weeks roll into months; I was my own worst enemy. I put a bit of weight on but then realised this is what I want to do. It's a lesson learnt now though and I'm ready to kick on"

Also on the bill are Halesowen's Lennox Clarke, Jordan Clayton, Craig Morris, Rob Hunt and Tipton super featherweight Lee Glover, alongside James 'The Full Monty' Montgomery and West Bromwich fighters middleweight Tom Stokes and super featherweight Jack Summers.

Tickets are £30 or and £60 VIP ringside and can be bought on 0845 111 2900 or directly from any boxer on the bill.

Cradley prevail to move back into league's top four

CRADLEY moved back into the National League top four, prevailing 50-38 over Eastbourne at Monmore Green.

There were superb performances from top two Ashley Morris and Max Clegg, although lower order strength made a difference.

After falling behind early on, Heathens were given a lifeline when GB international Adam Ellis fell when leading heat five – and the Heathens duly capitalised to strike successive 5-1s.

They remained ahead with skipper Clegg brilliantly seeing off Ellis in heat 11. The Eagles lost Jake Knight and Charley Powell to injuries after crashes, and were effectively reduced to just five riders.

Morris and Clegg both rounded off impressive performances by seeing off Ellis for a 5-1 in heat 13 before Clegg brilliantly won the final race. Ben Basford scored some vital points before walking away from a crash in his final ride.

Cradley 50: Max Clegg 12, Ashley Morris 10+1, Luke Chessell 9+1, Bradley Andrews 8+1, Richard Andrews 6+1, Ben Basford 4+3, Layne Cupitt 1+1.
Eastbourne 38: Ellis Perks 12, Georgie Wood 8+2, Adam Ellis 7+1, Luke Harris 6, Charley Powell 4, Jake Knight 0, Stephen Whitehouse 1+1, Gary Cottham R/R.

Youngsters claim places on podium

Junior medal winners at Sandwell Triathlon

Triathlon

BLACK Country Triathlete Jacob Anson came back from the European Aquathlon Championships in Chateauroux, France, representing Great Britain, with a silver medal in the male 16-19 age group in a time of 32:11 for a 1,000m open water swim followed by a 5k run.

Club juniors were also on top form with a large number of podium places at Sandwell Open Water Triathlon at Swan Pool. Rosie Briscoe was third in the TS1 age group swimming 150m, cycling 2000m and running 1500m in 15:54.

Her sister Holly was second in the TS2 age group in 23:01 following a 200m swim, a 4,000m bike ride and run of 1,800m. The TS3 race, consisting of a 300m swim, 6,000m bike and a 2,400m swim, saw Lydia Silk finish in 29:24 to take first place and Ellie Willis second in 29:39; Joel Humpage took second place in the boys TS3 in 27:25.

Reece Ashfield finished second in the Youth category swimming 400m, cycling 8000m and running 3000m in 33:41. Samantha Paine completed her first Standard Distance Triathlon at Cholmondeley Castle, Cheshire finishing fifth in age group for a 1,500m swim, 44k bike and 10k run.

CLUB KEEN TO EARN RESPECT

GRASSROOTS football is booming at Lye Town FC with a Respect and fairplay campaign helping influence the players of tomorrow.

The club, whose first team, jointly managed by Martin Thomas and Darren Goodall, feature in the Midland League Premier Division, boasts a thriving junior section with an under-18s Midland Junior Premier League outfit and sides filtering down from under-16s to under-7s.

And it is with the younger stars, some of whom play at King George VI Park in Kingswinford, that Lye chiefs aim to create a bright future.

Simon Westwood, from Brierley Hill, oversees the under-8s and, after impressing at the helm, was handed the reins with next season's under-15s group, who feature in the Midland Junior Premier League Development.

"Our junior section has been running four years now. We have got FA Standard Chartered status and our idea is to promote from within and make everyone feel part of the club," said Westwood, a teaching assistant.

To hand their Respect campaign a boost, an uncompetitive round robin tournament was held, where Lye invited three other local under-7 sides – Gornal Athletic, Bilbrook West and Kewford Eagles West – for a feast of football.

The club also held Respect workshops for parents as well as players, through the Stourbridge Youth League, where league welfare and Respect officer Martin Holliday passed on ideas.

"The workshop helped educate players, parents, coaches and the management on how to behave," Westwood added.

"The round robin went really, really well. The kids play uncompetitive matches at that age and all of them finished the day with a medal and Respect armbands."

As a gesture of goodwill from their improving first team, Lye's under-8s were asked to take on the role of mascots for the high profile league game against Hereford in front of 688 fans. The youngsters also had a chance to enjoy the mascot treatment at Lye's final home game of the campaign against Dunkirk.

■ Anyone interested in going along or supporting the club should contact Simon Westwood on 07494 522163.

Teams line up the Respect round robin tournament hosted by Lye Town

Runners make a Bolt for Blakedown event

DUDLEY Kingswinford Running Club athletes competed in the Blakedown Bolt, a tough off road 10k race with the course making full use of trails and tracks across fields and through woods before finishing within stumbling distance of the bar.

Mick Quane was the first hoop home taking 23rd place in 44.49, Daren Thompson was 31st in 46.09, John Andrews finished in 52.14 to take 79th place and Samantha Hemming was 212nd in 1.05.50.

The inaugural Great Donington Run took place at the Motor Racing Circuit in the East Midlands. Andy Fraser competed in the 10-mile event finishing in 1.45.39 to take 382nd place.

After a year's absence the Shifnal Half Marathon returned was graced with the presence of a handful of blue hoops.

Dave Norman came home in 13th place in 1.30.49, Graham Wildgoose finished in 1.40.48 to take 30th place, Meg Dowen was 108th in 2.17.17, Sam Hemming finished in 117th in 2.20.06 and Preston Grundy claimed the 1st MV70 prize in 2.25.57.

Spin duo's work in vain as Stour fall

Old Elizabethans (125 a/o) beat Stourbridge (78 a/o) by 47 runs

STOURBRIDGE failed to capitalise after their spinners Mikesh Jivan-Patel and Tarryck Gabriel put the team in a commanding position.

The duo captured six wickets between them to help bowl out Old Elizabethans for 125 off 48 overs. Stour needed to get 125 in 56 overs but on pitch that was made for bowlers. Six lbw decisions went against struggling Stour, depriving them of the first win of the season.

Stour skipper Matt Bradley started well enough, winning the toss, glad to give the opposition the first strike. The match was curtailed to 52 overs per innings after a 25 minutes delayed start.

Umar Khalid struck the first blow in the second over taking the return catch off ex-Pakistani pro Jamshad. Nineteen runs later Nabeel Ali bowled Taylor for four and claimed the wicket of Bartlett lbw for three in the in the 19th over.

Opener Bullock and number five Hennessey put on 46 in 15 overs which helped to turn the match in OE's favour. Bullock was bowled by Jivan-Patel for 35 off 102 balls in 118 minutes.

Once Bullock departed Stour tightened their grip allowing OE's just 31 runs off 14 overs. Hennessey finished on 43 off 88 balls lasting 90 minutes.

Stour had banked four overs of the OE's innings. However, no one was able to repeat the innings of Hennessey. Richard Bradley top scored with 17 runs off 88 balls batting for 63 minutes, Matt Bradley's innings lasted 63 minutes for 17 runs, and Josh Banks batted for 46 minutes for his nine runs.

Stour were left to rue what might have been. Opening bowler Booth prised out six Stour wickets for 23 runs off 12 over. There were wins, however, for the 2nd XI, 3rd XI and the 4th XI.

Trials to find new youth team players

STOURBRIDGE FC are holding trials to identify new talent for the club's under-18s midweek Midland Floodlit Youth League side.

Trials will start on Tuesday, July 5, at the Greenfields site on Swinford Road, Oldswinford.

Interested players aged 15-17 are asked to first provide a football CV to the manager Kieran Bustin at kieranbustin@hotmail.co.uk, containing details of schools/clubs/academies previously played for, any representative honours achieved at district or county level and favoured position. Further details available at www.stourbridgefc.com

★★★

The Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Ketley, Telford.
Thursday, June 30, 2016

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
The recycled content of newspapers in 2015 was 71%

Domino's
Stourbridge Industrial Estate, Mill Race Lane, Stourbridge DY8 1JN
01384 374666
Opening Hours: Sun-Thurs 11.30 am-11 pm, Fri-Sat 11.30 am-12 midnight
Not valid with any other offer. Expiry date:04/09/2016

the COLLECTION special
40% OFF ALL PIZZAS
COLLECTION ONLY
Discount applies to regular menu price
Premium crust and base charged as extra

the ONLINE sepcial
£10 OFF
WHEN YOU SPEND £30 OR MORE ONLINE AT WWW.DOMINOS.CO.UK
CODE: TENDSKTH
Discount applies on regular menu price
Excludes ice cream and 14/21 chicken portions

the SAVER deal
ANY CLASSIC CRUST PIZZA + 1 SUMPTUOUS SIDE + 1 ANY SIDE
SMALL £13.99 MEDIUM £16.99 LARGE £18.99
Pizza from the menu or create your own
Up to 4 toppings. Premium bases and crusts charged as extra
Any side excludes 14/21 chicken, combos and chick'n'mix box

the SECOND PIZZA deal
BUY ONE PIZZA GET A 2ND For £5
First pizza at regular menu price
Second pizza of equal or lesser value
Premium bases and crusts charged as extra

the WEEKDAY special
ANY CLASSIC CRUST PIZZA + GARLIC PIZZA BREAD + COLESLAW
Medium £12.99 Large £14.99
Monday - Thursday only
Pizza from the menu or create your own up to 4 toppings.
Premium bases and crusts charged as extra

the FAMILY feast
ANY 2 PIZZAS + GARLIC PIZZA BREAD + POTATO WEDGES + BOTTLE OF DRINK
Medium £22.99 Large £25.99
Pizza from the menu or create your own up to 4 toppings
Premium bases and crusts charged as extra